





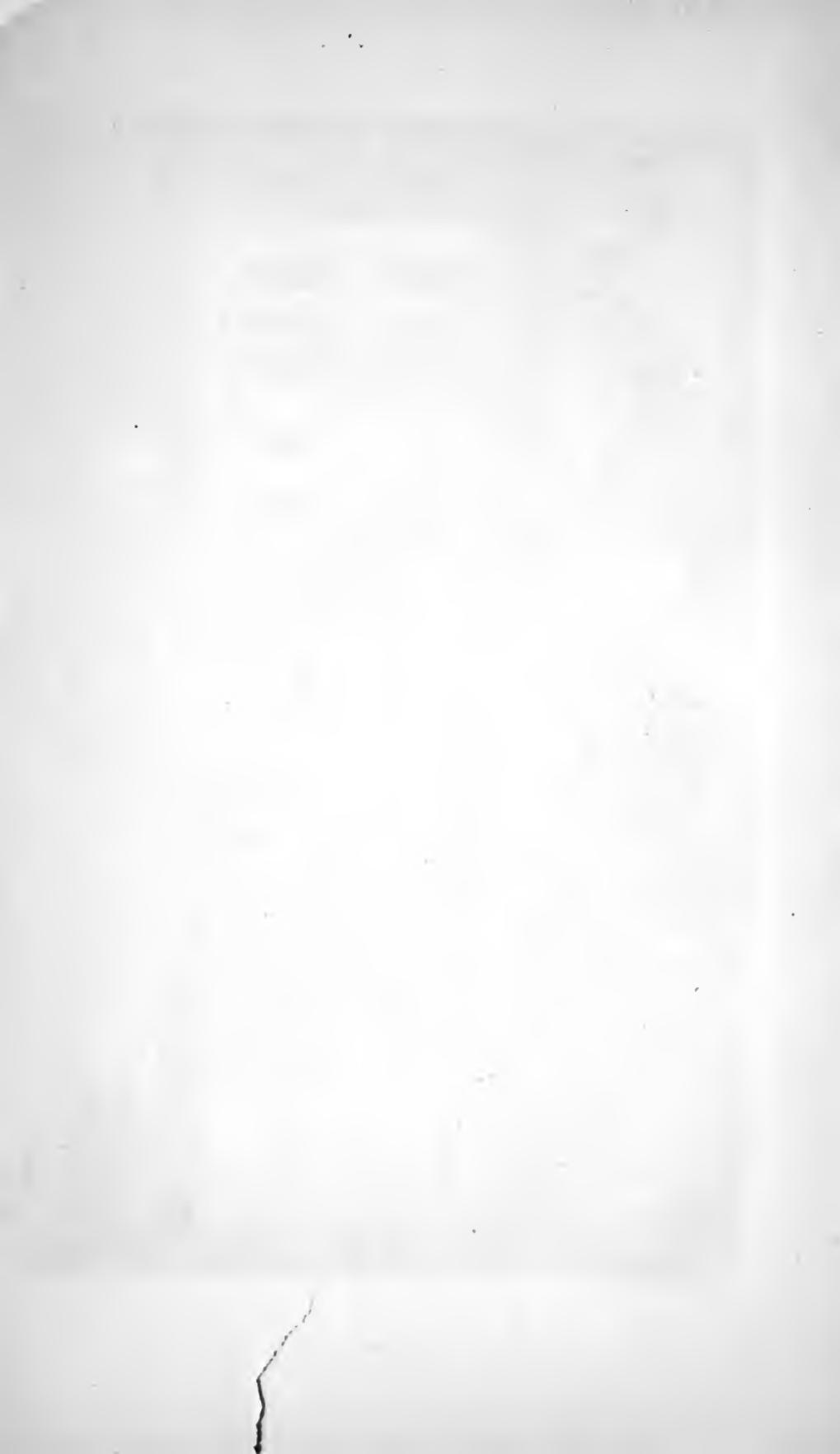
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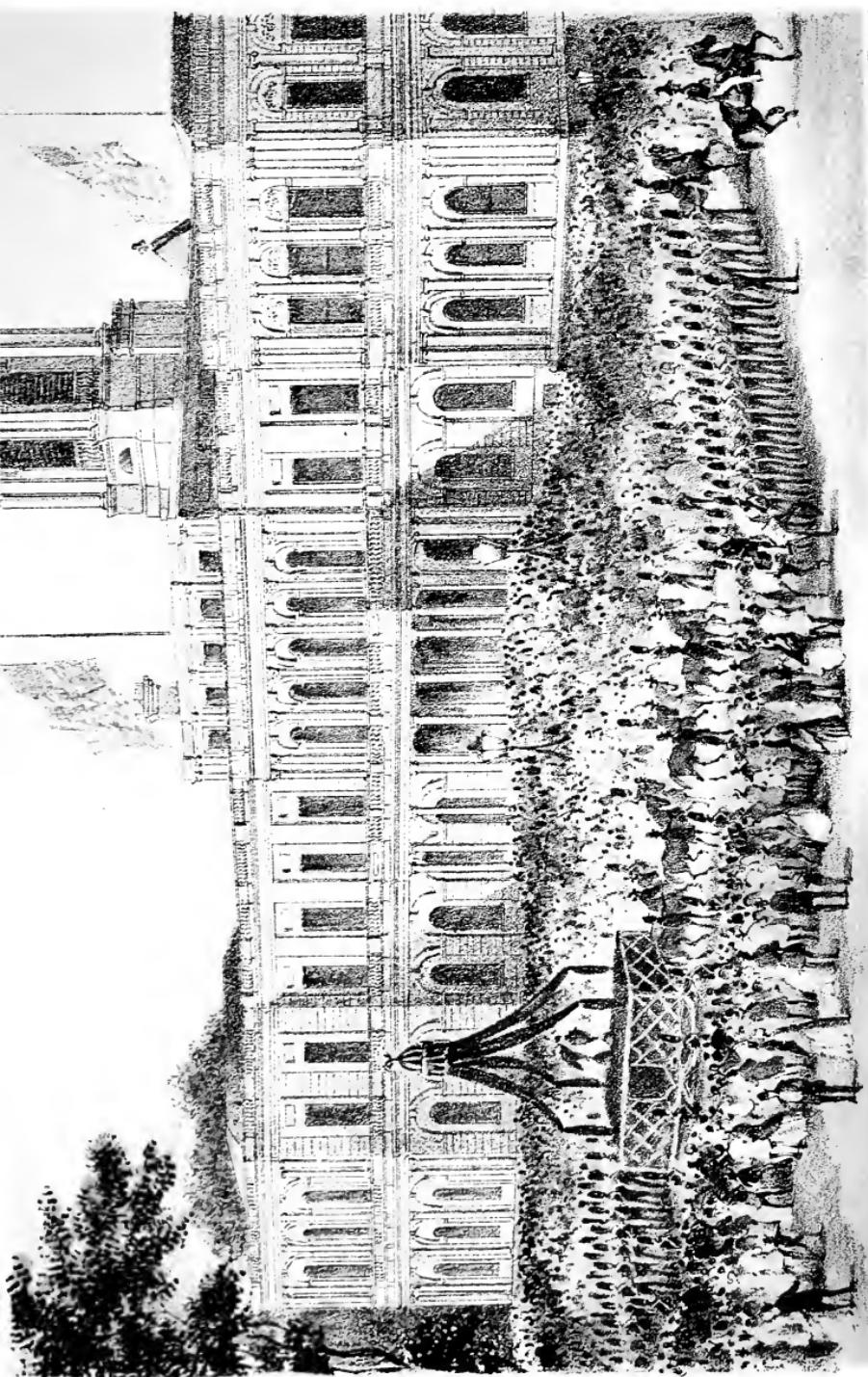
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DANIEL WEBSTER

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

APPOINTED BY THE

Common Council of the City of New York,

TO RENDER A SUITABLE

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

TO THE MEMORY OF THE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER,

LATE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK:

McSPEDON & BAKER, PRINTERS.

1853.

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BOARD OF ALDERMEN,

JULY, 1853.

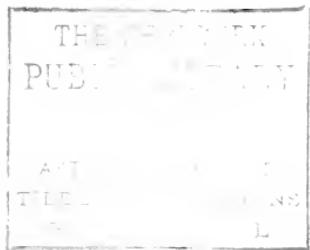
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BY ALDERMAN THOMAS J. BARR.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of the Common Council cause to be published, in an appropriate manner, the REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE on the OBSEQUIES of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State in the United States.

D. T. VALENTINE,

CLERK.





## R E P O R T.

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THE Joint Special Committee of the Common Council of the city of New York, appointed to make and complete arrangements for rendering a suitable tribute of respect to the memory of the HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State in the government of the United States, respectfully present the following

### R E P O R T

Of the events consequent upon the demise of that illustrious statesman, together with a detailed statement of their acts in connection with that solemn occasion.

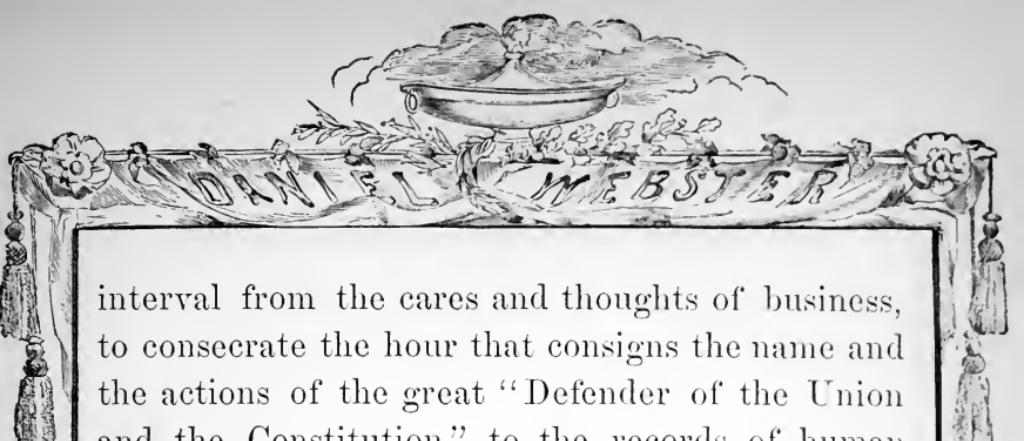
Your Committee, forcibly impressed with a deep sensibility of the great and irreparable loss the nation, and, we may truly add, the whole world, have sustained, feel themselves inadequate to pronounce a fitting eulogium upon the character and services of the mighty man, for whom, in



## OBSEQUIES OF

the general sorrow and bereavement, the united hearts of millions swell and throb with sympathetic emotions. Yet we are sensible of the high responsibility devolving upon us, and, in justice to that principle which should at all times actuate men to purposes of high resolve, we have endeavored to render a sincere and heartfelt tribute of affection to the man who has stamped the world with the impress of his brilliant genius, and who has departed forever from the scenes of his labors, his toils and his usefulness.

“The custom of honoring great public benefactors by solemn observances, is natural, just and wise; but the tributes and testimonials which we offer to departed worth, are for the living, and not for the dead. Eulogies, monuments and statues can add nothing to the peace and joy of that serene sphere, into which the great and good, who have finished their earthly career, have passed. But these expressions and memorials do good to those from whom they flow. They lift us above the region of low cares and selfish struggles. They link the present to the past, and the world of sense to the world of thought. They break the common course of life with feelings brought from a higher region.” These are profound meditations, and they are particularly applicable to an occasion like this, when we should pause for an



## DANIEL WEBSTER

interval from the cares and thoughts of business, to consecrate the hour that consigns the name and the actions of the great "Defender of the Union and the Constitution" to the records of human history. It is meet and proper that the events of a brilliant and glorious day, redolent of mighty achievements, after the dark clouds of the storm have suddenly overcast its ethereal brightness, should be strongly marked upon the pages of our country's history.

Your Committee, desirous of rendering a permanent and useful value to their report, are confident that a judicious selection of the eloquent eulogiums delivered from the pulpit; by the learned members of the bar; in colleges, legislative halls, societies and associations, upon this melancholy occasion, in various parts of the country, but more particularly of those pronounced in this city, will establish the best manifestation of the deep and abiding veneration in which DANIEL WEBSTER was held by his countrymen, and transmit to posterity a glowing and useful page, to encourage and stimulate to deeds of honor and greatness the youth of the present generation, as well as those of the future.

OBSEQUIES OF

# Daniel Webster

DIED

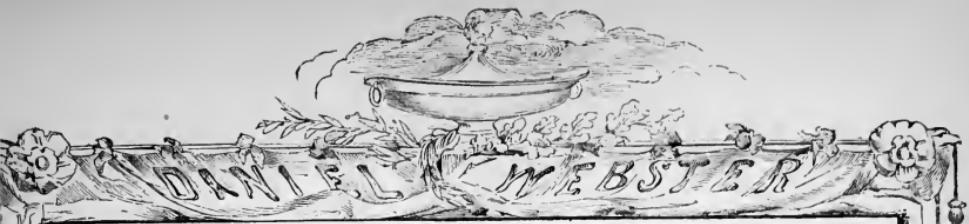
AT MARSHFIELD, PLYMOUTH COUNTY, MASS.,

October 24th, 1852,

IN THE SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR OF HIS AGE.

He passed the barriers of time into the dark “valley of the shadow of death,” as gliding into a natural and refreshing slumber—so that it was difficult to determine the precise moment of his death.

“He died, as the heart hopes to die, in his own home, amid those scenes of natural beauty endeared to him by the joys and sorrows of many eventful years, with the faces of family, kindred and friends around his bed, and religion pillowing his head. He died full of years and full of honor, with no duty unperformed, and no trust undischarged; he died by no lingering and painful decay, making him dead while yet living; he died with all his glorious faculties unimpaired, and this great orb, which had so long guided and cheered us with its light, sunk below the horizon, undimmed by a single cloud.”



## Announcement of the Death in New York.

Notwithstanding each succeeding bulletin from Marshfield prepared the mind for the approaching national loss—that the mortal career of Mr. WEBSTER was fast drawing to a final close—yet thousands of our citizens hoped against hope, and prayed that he would recover. About nine o'clock in the forenoon, the melancholy intelligence of his demise was announced in this city; the sad news was speedily circulated, and it appeared as if the “Angel of death had spread his wings upon the blast.” Flags were unfurled at half-mast from the public buildings, hotels, and among the shipping. Funereal draperies were suspended from the windows and balconies of hotels and many private dwellings. As evening approached, nothing was heard, as topics of conversation, except the reciprocating sympathy for the immense bereavement we have sustained; preparations for general mourning, and the question, how the mighty loss to the Constitution by Mr. WEBSTER’s death could be restored. In many of the churches where the sad news had reached, ministers of the gospel made eloquent and touching allusions to his departure. The solemnity of the Sabbath was increased by the sorrow of the people, and New York mourned the death of the mighty man with an intense and deep grief.

OBSEQUIES OF

## Proceedings of the Common Council.

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### BOARD OF ALDERMEN,

OCTOBER 25, 1852.

PRESENT—Richard T. Compton, Esq., President ; Abraham Moore, Dudley Haley, Oscar W. Sturtevant, Jacob F. Oakley, John Boyce, Thomas J. Barr, William M. Tweed, William J. Brisley, Charles Francis, Wesley Smith, John Pearsall, James M. Bard, Sylvester L. H. Ward, Asahel A. Denman, William H. Cornell, Alonzo A. Alvord, John Doherty, William J. Peck.

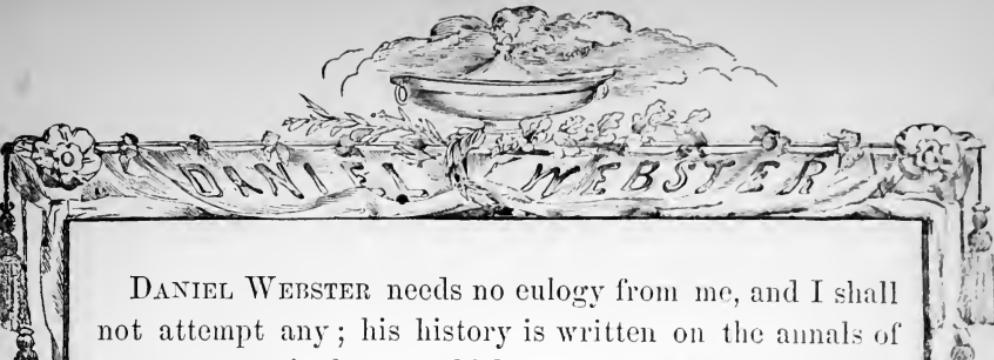
The following communication was received from his Honor the Mayor, viz :

MAYOR'S OFFICE,  
October 25, 1852,

*To the Honorable Common Council :*

GENTLEMEN :—The mournful intelligence has spread throughout the land that DANIEL WEBSTER—the Orator—the Patriot—the Statesman—unrivalled in any country or in any age—is no more.

The death of such a man is a national calamity, and his decease will be mourned with a sincerity which is but a merited tribute to his worth and services.



DANIEL WEBSTER needs no eulogy from me, and I shall not attempt any ; his history is written on the annals of our country, in letters which can never be effaced—his memory is embalmed in the hearts of his grateful countrymen.

I communicate this painful information to you officially, to the end that such steps may be taken, as will at once mark our appreciation of his exalted worth and services—our grief at the loss which we, in common with the whole country, have sustained.

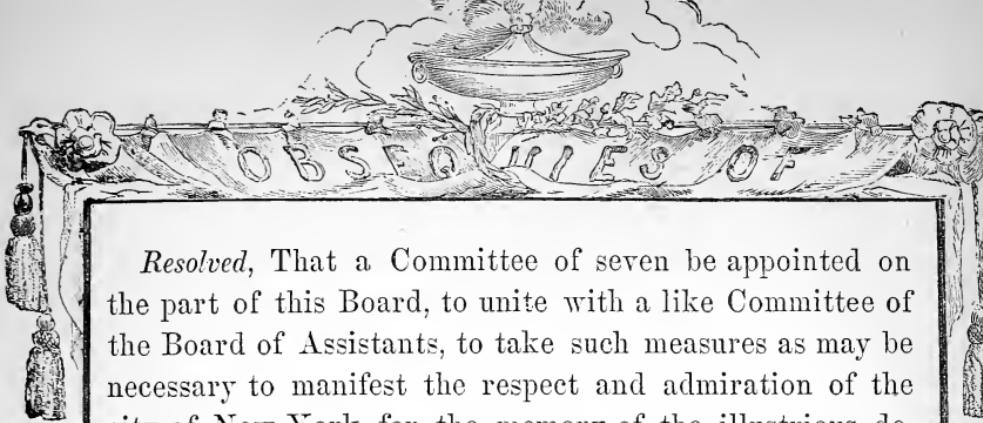
A. C. KINGSLAND, MAYOR.

Whereupon, THOMAS J. BARR, Alderman of the Sixth Ward, presented the following preamble and resolution, viz :

*Whereas*, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from this life, DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State, and

*Whereas*, This eminent statesman, for the last forty years, has, in the council and cabinet of the nation, rendered services of unequalled devotion and patriotism to preserve the Constitution of our confederacy, to perpetuate the blessings of our Union, and to defend the honor and dignity of our country, untarnished, at home and abroad ; and whose transcendent genius and talent have served to elevate our country to its present proud position among the nations of the earth, shedding the brightest lustre upon our past history, and inspiring the most ardent hopes for our future destiny ; and

*Whereas*, This Board, sharing the general sorrow which this melancholy event inspires, is desirous of evincing its sensibility at the loss ; therefore, be it



OBSEQUIES OF

*Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed on the part of this Board, to unite with a like Committee of the Board of Assistants, to take such measures as may be necessary to manifest the respect and admiration of the city of New York for the memory of the illustrious deceased, and to make the necessary arrangements for that purpose.

Whereupon JOHN BOYCE, Alderman of the Fifth Ward, seconded the resolution, and, in doing so, made the following remarks :

Mr. PRESIDENT :—I rise to second the motion ; in doing so, I do not intend to trouble you with any unnecessary remarks, for what has already been said, and much that has been published in all of the newspapers of the day, leaves nothing for me to say, without repeating what has already been well said ; but I desire to bear my feeble testimony to the unsurpassed worth and services of the great statesman, whose death the people of this great nation, from length to breadth, without distinction of party, are called upon to mourn, and I have no doubt but sadness now pervades every intelligent and enlightened mind throughout our whole country, where this melancholy event has been made known. I am free to say, none among our distinguished and lamented statesmen who have preceded him in their demise, had stronger claims upon the affection and respect of their countrymen, than has DANIEL WEBSTER—his distinguished public services—his pre-eminent abilities and patriotism, when living, forced a respect from all, such as could be created only by a master mind like his. Now that he is gone, it is proper and it is right that this Common Council—the people of this



great and wealthy city, and the inhabitants of this happy land, should arise, one and all, and show every testimony of respect to the memory of the greatest statesman of the age, who has contributed more than any other to a correct understanding of our constitutional compact, and the perpetuity of our glorious institutions.

ASAHEL A. DENMAN, Alderman of the Sixteenth Ward, made the following remarks :

Mr. PRESIDENT:—I sometimes think it unfortunate that I am not a professional speaker, so that I might be enabled to bear testimony to the valuable services of those of our great men who have, by the dispensation of Almighty God, been called from the active scenes of life; and particularly on this occasion it would afford me a melancholy pleasure to be enabled to pay a passing tribute to the memory of the illustrious deceased. He had all the attributes of a great statesman—his works will substantiate that, and we may say, to-night, that a great man has departed, and, in the language of one of old, “Truly a great man has fallen in Israel.”

I hope that the Committee appointed will make such a demonstration as will be worthy of the city of New York, and of the departed statesman.

The resolution was then unanimously adopted, and the President appointed Aldermen BARR, PECK, OAKLEY, MOORE, DENMAN, BOYCE and STURTEVANT as such Committee, on the part of this Board.

And the same was directed to be sent to the Board of Assistants for concurrence.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

# OBSEVERIES OF

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN,

OCTOBER 25, 1852.

PRESENT—Jonathan Trotter, Esq., President, in the chair ; Assistant Aldermen Brown, Tait, Mabbatt, O'Brien, Rodman, Breaden, Woodward, Wells, Anderson, Bouton, McGown, Wright, Wheelan, Barker, Rogers and McConkey.

Assistant Alderman BARKER presented the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That this Board receives with profound regret the intelligence of the death of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, the last of that great triumvirate of American statesmen, who, having adorned for more than a quarter of a century the history of their country, have, within so short a period, been gathered to the tomb.

*Resolved*, That our feelings of grief at his loss are in some degree assuaged by the pride which we feel as his compatriots, when we reflect that to him this age has produced few equals, and no superiors as an orator, a lawyer, or a statesman.

*Resolved*, That whatever difference of political opinion may have existed at times between him and portions of his countrymen, all must acknowledge the debt of gratitude which his country owes to the illustrious deceased, for innumerable services rendered in the Senate, and in the Cabinet, for the highest and most successful efforts of diplomacy, and for defences of the Constitution and the Union, on many well-remembered occasions, which no one ever excelled, or perhaps has equalled.



Mr. BARKER addressed the Board, and said :

Mr. PRESIDENT :—The business of this Board has been suspended for the purpose of showing our respect to the memory of that great statesman who is now numbered with the dead. Soon, soon, sir, has he followed to his final rest the lamented HENRY CLAY. Scarcely have the emblems of mourning, placed around this chamber been removed, when we are told that the arrow of the angel of death has pierced another shining mark. CALHOUN, CLAY and WEBSTER, who have, for nearly half a century past, been the pride and ornament of the nation, in the House of Representatives, in the Senate, and in the councils of the nation, have now passed from amongst us forever. The loss of DANIEL WEBSTER, in his high position as Secretary of State of the United States, will be severely felt, and the news of his death has caused an intense feeling of sorrow in this great commercial metropolis, and throughout this wide extended land. In every situation in which he has been placed, he has nobly vindicated the honor and interests of his country, as well in our own affairs as in our intercourse with the other nations of the earth. With the lamented CLAY, he added his great and unwearied efforts in sustaining, upholding and perfecting that compromise which has again made us a united and happy people. He was for the Union, the whole Union, and nothing but the Union. He never recognized any section of this Republic, but his gigantic efforts were for this Union, one and undivided. I will not attempt, sir, to add any further remarks upon the services of him whose life was entirely devoted to his country : it is unnecessary to repeat them here—they are all familiar to each and every member of this Board. I could not, sir, had I all

OBSEQUIES OF  
the power of language, add one particle to his fame ; his country's history will record his patriotism and devotion, in letters never to be erased. It is fit and becoming, therefore, for us, as the representatives of this great city, that we should unite in paying our last tribute of respect to the memory of a man so distinguished in this nation.

I would move, further, Mr. President, that a committee of three of this Board be appointed to confer with a committee of the Board of Aldermen, hereafter, whenever it is ascertained that the funeral will take place, in order to offer a further testimony of respect to the illustrious departed.

The resolutions being unanimously carried, the President appointed Messrs. BARKER, WHEELAN and WELLS as such Committee.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

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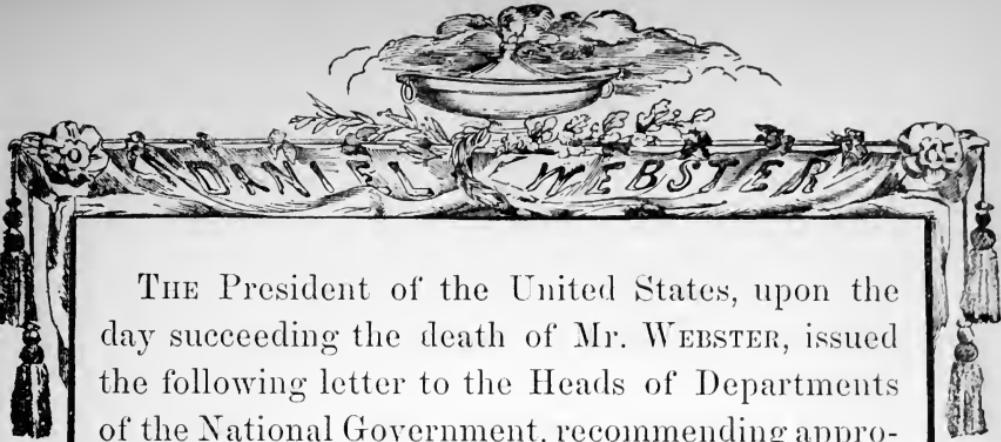
#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,

OCTOBER 25, 1852.

AT the meeting of the Board this evening, Alderman DENMAN moved, as an act of respect to the memory of the distinguished statesman, DANIEL WEBSTER, whose decease every American who admires genius must deplore, that this Board adjourn without transacting any business.

His Honor the RECORDER, said that it was a becoming tribute to the memory of that great man, the lustre of whose name has been shed, not only over this nation, but throughout all others, and would descend to posterity, and be admired among them.

The Board then adjourned.



THE President of the United States, upon the day succeeding the death of Mr. WEBSTER, issued the following letter to the Heads of Departments of the National Government, recommending appropriate measures to be adopted in connection with that melancholy event :

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON,  
Monday Morning, Oct. 25, 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—The painful intelligence received yesterday, enforces upon me the sad duty of announcing to the Executive Departments the death of the Secretary of State. DANIEL WEBSTER died at Marshfield, in Massachusetts, on Sunday, the 24th of October, between two and three o'clock in the morning.

Whilst this irreparable loss brings its natural sorrow to every American heart, and will be heard far beyond our borders with mournful respect, wherever civilization has nurtured men who find in transcendent intellect and faithful patriotic service a theme for praise, it will visit with still more poignant emotion his colleagues in the administration, with whom his relations have been so intimate and so cordial.

The fame of our illustrious statesman belongs to his country—the admiration of it to the world. The record of his wisdom will inform future generations, not less than its utterance has enlightened the present. He has bequeathed to posterity the richest fruits of the experience and judgment of a great mind, conversant with the greatest national concerns. In these his memory will endure as long as our country shall continue to be the home and guardian of freemen.

## OBSEQUIES OF

The people will share with the Executive Departments in the common grief which bewails his departure from amongst us.

In the expression of individual regret at this afflicting event, the Executive Departments of the government will be careful to manifest every observance of honor which custom has established as appropriate to the memory of one so eminent as a public functionary, and so distinguished as a citizen.

The Acting Secretary of State will communicate this sad intelligence to the diplomatic corps near this government, and through our Ministers abroad to foreign governments.

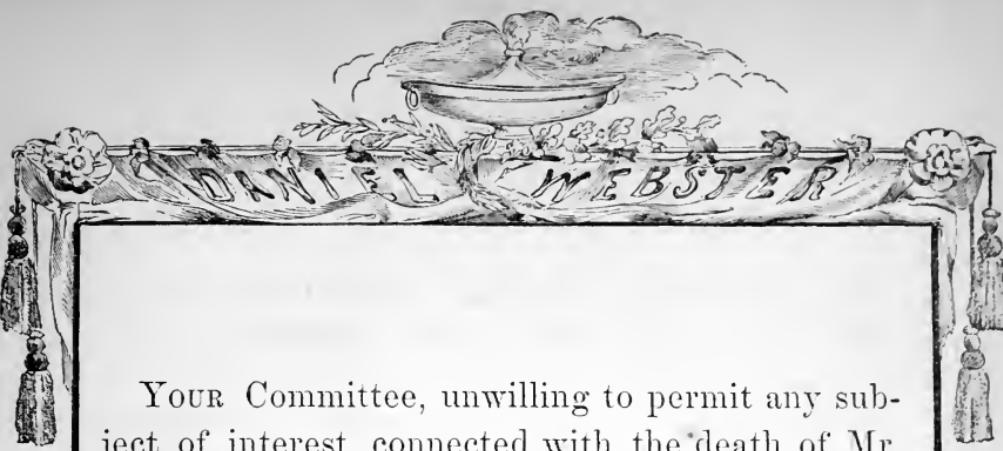
The members of the Cabinet are requested, as a further testimony of respect for the deceased, to wear the usual badges of mourning for thirty days.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

MILLARD FILLMORE.

To the Acting Secretary of State, and the Secretaries of the Treasury, Interior, War, Navy, the Attorney General and Postmaster General.

In pursuance of Mr. FILLMORE's instruction, orders were issued to close the various departments for the day. The buildings in which the business of the different bureaux is conducted were hung in mourning, and in the State Department the officers were recommended to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

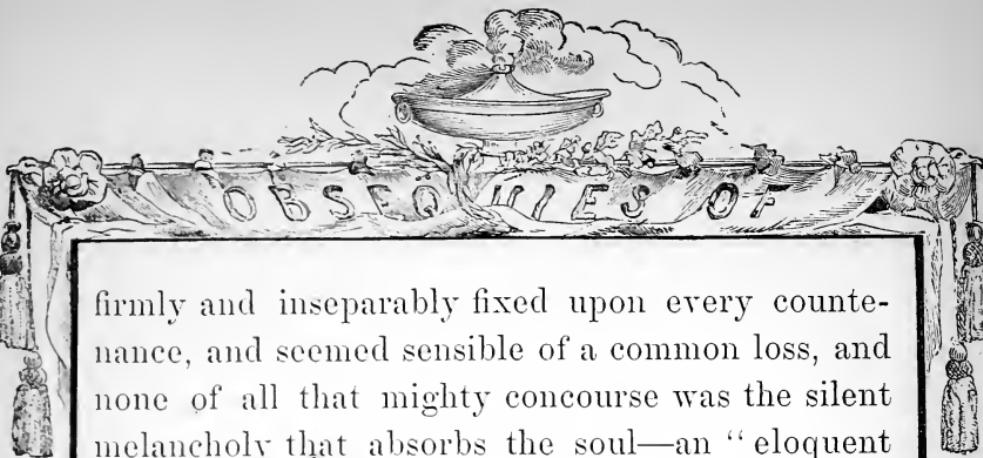


YOUR Committee, unwilling to permit any subject of interest, connected with the death of Mr. WEBSTER, to pass unnoticed, have compiled from reliable sources, a brief but interesting history of the solemn and beautiful

### *Funeral Ceremonies at Marshfield.*

In conformity with the wish expressed in Mr. WEBSTER's will, every thing was arranged with the utmost simplicity, in the order usual in a New England funeral—private it could not be. In addition to the general sense of loss in the removal of a great leader and a statesman, in whose wisdom and firmness so strong a confidence was reposed, there was in many hearts a feeling of personal bereavement in the death of a revered and beloved friend ; and thus thousands were led to the spot by a wish to honor his memory and look once more upon his face. From all quarters, by every path, and by every conveyance, great multitudes came together ; and the whole number of persons assembled at the hour of noon was, probably, not less than ten or twelve thousand.

It was a clear, cloudless, autumnal day—the sun alone gave a cheerful aspect to nature—grief was



## OBSEQUIES OF

firmly and inseparably fixed upon every countenance, and seemed sensible of a common loss, and none of all that mighty concourse was the silent melancholy that absorbs the soul—an “eloquent testimonial”—so unmistakably apparent as of the men and women of Marshfield—his old and devoted neighbors. Minute guns were fired from sunrise to sunset; the church bells were tolled, their deep-toned sound adding a doleful solemnity to the general sorrow.

In addition to the thousands that had journeyed to that lonely spot, made desolate by the absence of its gifted proprietor, were representatives from the government of Massachusetts; members of the bar, of civic, military and political associations; the clergy of Boston and other parts of the State; delegations from the bar, political and civic societies of New York, Philadelphia, Albany, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and almost every State in the Union was there represented.

At twelve o'clock, the religious services were commenced by the Rev. EBENEZER ALDEN, pastor of the Congregational Church in South Marshfield, where Mr. WEBSTER had been accustomed to attend public worship.

The vast multitude stood uncovered, and silently joined in the impressive funeral services.



MR. DANIEL WEBSTER

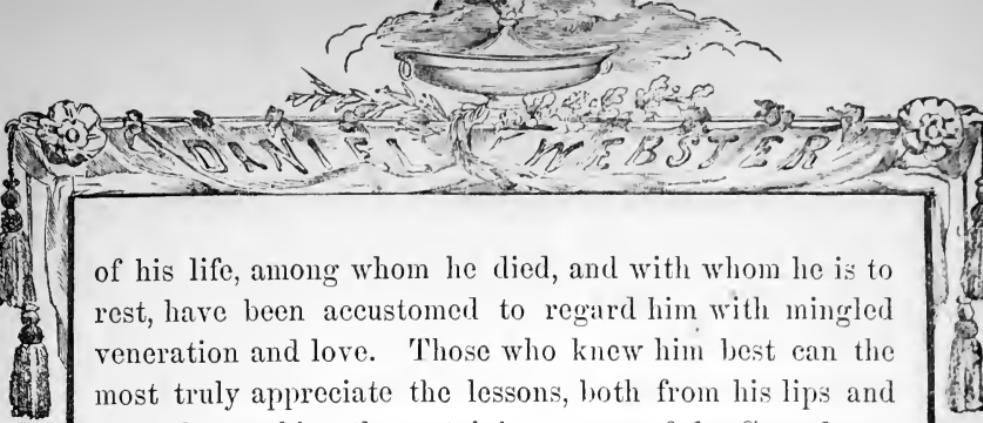
Mr. ALDEN commenced by reading an appropriate extract from the Bible ; after which he pronounced, with great feeling, the following

### ADDRESS.

On an occasion like the present, a multitude of words were worse than idle. Standing before that majestic form, it becomes ordinary men to keep silence. He being dead, yet sleepeth. In the words he applied to WASHINGTON, in the last great public discourse he ever delivered, "the whole atmosphere is redolent of his name. Hills and forests, rocks and rivers, echo and re-echo his praises." All the good, whether learned or unlearned, high or low, rich or poor, feel this day that there is one treasure common to them all, and that is the fame and character of WEBSTER. They recount his deeds, ponder over his principles and teachings, and resolve to be more and more guided by them in future. Americans by birth are proud of his character, and exiles from foreign shores are eager to participate in admiration of him ; and it is true that he is this day here, everywhere, more an object of love and regard than on any day since his birth. And while the world, too prone to worship mere intellect, laments that the orator and statesman is no more, we enter on more sacred ground, and dwell upon the example and counsels of a *Christian*, as a husband, father and friend. I trust it will be no rude wounding of the spirit—no intrusion upon the privacy of domestic life—to allude to a few circumstances in the last scenes of the mortal existence of the great man who is gone, fitted to administer Christian consolation, and to guide to a better acquaintance with that religion which is adapted both to temper our grief and establish our hope.

Those who were present on the morning of the Sabbath upon which this head of a family conducted the worship of his household, will never forget, as he read from our Lord's sermon on the Mount, the emphasis which he alone was capable of giving to that passage which speaks of the divine nature of forgiveness. They saw beaming from that eye, now closed in death, the Spirit of Him who first uttered that god-like sentiment. And he who, by the direction of the dying man, upon a subsequent morning of the day of rest, read in their connection these words—"Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief;"—and then the closing chapter of our Savior's last words to his disciples, being particularly requested to dwell upon this clause of the verse—"Holy Father, keep through thine own name, those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are,"—behold a sublime illustration of the indwelling and abiding power of Christian faith!

And if these tender remembrances only cause our tears to flow more freely, it may not be improper for us to present the example of the father, when his great heart was rent by the loss of a daughter, whom he most dearly loved. Those present on that occasion well remember, when the struggle of mortal agony was over, retiring from the presence of the dead, bowing together before the presence of God, and joining with the afflicted father, as he poured forth his soul, pleading for grace and strength from on high. As upon the morning of his death, we conversed upon the evident fact that for the last few weeks his mind had been engaged in preparation for an exchange of worlds, one who knew him, well remarked: "His whole life has been that preparation." The people of this rural neighborhood, among whom he spent the last twenty years



of his life, among whom he died, and with whom he is to rest, have been accustomed to regard him with mingled veneration and love. Those who knew him best can the most truly appreciate the lessons, both from his lips and example, teaching the sustaining power of the Gospel.

His last words—"I STILL LIVE,"—we may interpret in a higher sense than that in which they are usually regarded. He has taught us how to attain the life of faith and the life to come. Vividly impressed upon the memory of the speaker is the instruction once received as to the fitting way of presenting divine truth from the sacred desk. Would that its force might be felt by those who are called to minister in divine things. Said Mr. WEBSTER—"When I attend upon the preaching of the Gospel, I wish to have it made a personal matter—*a personal matter*—A PERSONAL MATTER!" It is to present him as enforcing these divine lessons of wisdom and consolation, that we have recalled to your minds these precious recollections. And we need utter no apology: indeed, we should be inexcusable in letting the present opportunity pass without unveiling the inner sanctuary of the life of the foremost man of all this world; for his most intimate friends are well aware that he had it in mind to prepare a work upon the internal evidences of Christianity, as a testimony of his heart-felt conviction of the "divine reality" of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. But finding himself rapidly approaching those august scenes of immortality into which he had so often looked, he dictated the most important part of his epitaph. And so long as "the rock shall guard his rest, and the ocean sound his dirge," the world shall read on his monument, not only—

One of the few, the immortal names,  
That were not born to die;

but also that DANIEL WEBSTER lived and died in the Christian faith. The delineation which he gave of one of his early and noble compeers, could never have been written except from an experimental acquaintance with that which he holds up as the chief excellence of his friend. This description we shall apply to himself, trusting that it will be as well understood as admired.

Political eminence and professional fame fade away and die with all things earthly. Nothing of character is really permanent but virtue and personal worth. These remain. Whatever of excellence is wrought into the soul itself, belongs to both worlds. Real goodness does not attach itself merely to this life—it points to another world. Political or professional reputation cannot last forever; but a conscience void of offence before God and man, is an inheritance for eternity. Religion, therefore, is a necessary and indispensable element in any great human character. There is no living without it. Religion is the tie that connects man with his Creator, and holds him to His throne. If that tie be all sundered, all broken, he floats away, a worthless atom in the universe; its proper attractions all gone, its destiny thwarted, and its whole future nothing but darkness, desolation and death. A man with no sense of religious duty is he whom the Scriptures describe in such terse, but terrific language, as “living without God in the world.” Such a man is out of his proper being—out of the circle of all his duties—out of the circle of all his happiness, and away, far, far away, from the purposes of his creation.

A mind like Mr. WEBSTER’S—active, thoughtful, penetrating, sedate—could not but meditate deeply on the condition of man below, and feel its responsibilities. He could not look on this mighty system,



# DANIEL WEBSTER

This universal frame, thus wondrous fair,

without feeling that it was created and upheld by an Intelligence, to which all other intelligence must be responsible. I am bound to say, that in the course of my life, I never met with an individual, in any profession or condition, who always spoke, and always thought, with such awful reverence of the power and presence of God. No irreverence, no lightness, even no too familiar allusions to God and his attributes, ever escaped his lips. The very notion of a Supreme Being was, with him, made up of awe and solemnity. It filled the whole of his great mind with the strongest emotions. A man like him, with all his proper sentiments and sensibilities alive in him, must, in this state of existence, have something to believe, and something to hope for; or else, as life is advancing to its close, all is heart-sinking and oppression. Depend upon it, whatever may be the mind of an old man, old age is only really happy when, on feeling the enjoyments of his woe of this world pass away, it begins to lay a stronger hold on the realities of another. Mr. WEBSTER's religious sentiments and feelings were the crowning glories of his character.

The address was followed by a prayer, and, after a few moments pause, the sad procession, all on foot, unheralded by official pomp, military display, or even the strains of mournful music, moved slowly and reverentially along the silent path leading to the unpretending tomb. Upon the arrival of the honored relics of our national benefactor, at the entrance of the sepulchre, it was rested upon

the bosom of its gentle mother earth. It was once more uncovered, that the relatives and friends might again, and for the last time, look upon that majestic countenance ; a fervent, eloquent and grateful prayer was offered to the Throne of Grace, earnestly supplicating the Divine protection to the perpetuity of our happy confederation, and its prosperous institutions and people. The body was then placed in the tomb, and slowly and sadly, relative, friend and stranger passed away, and left the illustrious sleeper with those whom he had so tenderly loved in life, and with whom death had now re-united him forever.

"Rest there—there is no prouder tomb!"

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The Joint Special Committee held their first meeting on the 27th inst., to deliberate upon the most befitting mode of manifesting the respect entertained for the memory of Mr. WEBSTER by the people of this city, and of giving expression to the national sorrow. The Committee, after being duly organized, prepared and ordered to be published in the public papers of the day, the following preamble and resolutions, in relation to the funeral ceremonies at Marshfield, on the 29th of October, and the celebration of the obsequies in this city, on the 16th of November :



## DANIEL WEBSTER

### Obsequies of Hon. Daniel Webster,

LATE SECRETARY OF STATE.

At a meeting of the Special Committee of both Boards of the Common Council, held on Tuesday, 27th inst., at the City Hall, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, and ordered to be published in the several public papers :

*Whereas*, It is announced that the funeral of DANIEL WEBSTER, the late Secretary of State of the United States, will take place in Marshfield, on Friday, the 29th inst.; therefore, it is

*Resolved*, That our fellow citizens be requested to close their stores and places of business on that day, from the hour of 12, at noon, until sunset, and also all places of public amusement, in the evening of said day.

*Resolved*, That the bells of the several churches, and the fire alarm bells, be tolled from noon till 2 o'clock P. M., and that seventy minute guns (being the age of the late Secretary,) be fired from the Battery.

*Resolved*, That the owners and masters of vessels in the harbor, and the proprietors of all public places in the city, be requested to display their flags at half-mast during the whole day, and that our fellow citizens be also requested to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

*Resolved*, That Tuesday, the 16th of November, be set apart for the obsequies of the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, in this city.

#### COMMITTEES :

##### BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

THOMAS J. BARR,

O. W. STURTEVANT,

A. A. DENMAN,

JOHN BOYCE,

JACOB F. OAKLEY,

WILLIAM J. PECK,

ABRAHAM MOORE,

R. T. COMPTON, *President.*

## OBSEQUIES OF

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS.

ISAAC O. BARKER,

JOSIAH W. BROWN,

JOSEPH ROGERS,

THOMAS WHEELAN,

SAMUEL R. MABBATT,

HELMUS M. WELLS,

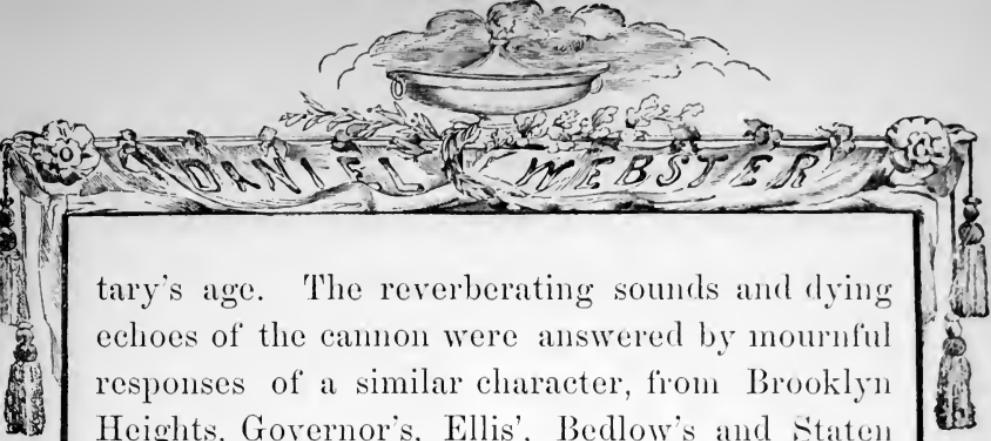
EDWIN BOUTON,

JONATHAN TROTTER, *Pres't.*

N. B.—Persons having charge of the several church bells, will please comply with the above request, without further notice.

The day appointed for the funeral ceremonies of DANIEL WEBSTER, at Marshfield, was most solemnly and generally observed in this city. In every part of the city, upon public and private buildings, could be seen the sombre testimonials that betoken the truth of man's dissolution of this earthly tabernacle. Flags at half-mast (many of them heavily draped in black,) were streaming from every flag-staff, and among the shipping of every nation that lay in our harbor. Banners, prepared with inscriptions and dressed in mourning, were extended across the streets. The mourning draperies upon many of the buildings, public and private, were rich, elaborate, and tasteful. As the hour of twelve approached, a gradual cessation of business was observable, and at mid-day nearly all the places of business in the city were closed.

The Veteran corps of heavy artillery were stationed on the Battery, with two pieces of ordnance, where they fired seventy discharges, corresponding with the years of the late Secre-



tary's age. The reverberating sounds and dying echoes of the cannon were answered by mournful responses of a similar character, from Brooklyn Heights, Governor's, Ellis', Bedlow's and Staten Islands; while the church bells of the city tolled out in mournful cadence the funeral knell.

In the evening, the Committee met, and the Chairman announced the following

S U B - C O M M I T T E E S ,

to make arrangements for the obsequies in this city, on the 16th of November:

*On Military Affairs,*

Messrs. DENMAN, OAKLEY, WHEELAN and WELLS.

*On Civic Societies and Associations,*

Messrs. MOORE, STURTEVANT, BROWN and MABBATT.

*On Fire Department,*

Messrs. MABBATT, BOUTON, BOYCE and PECK.

*On Preparing Programme,*

Messrs. STURTEVANT, OAKLEY, ROGERS and BARKER.

*On Selecting an Orator,*

Messrs. DENMAN, BARKER, WELLS and ROGERS.

*On Invitations,*

Messrs. MOORE, BARKER, WELLS and PECK.

## OBSEQUIES

The Committee met, pursuant to adjournment, on the 10th of November, and unanimously adopted the following resolutions, which were ordered to be published in the public journals of the day :

*Resolved*, That our fellow-citizens generally, and the different societies, trades and associations, and Fire Department, of this city and adjacent counties, are requested to unite in the testimony of respect proposed to be celebrated in honor of the illustrious dead ; and all societies and associations intending to co-operate, are requested to communicate with the Committee, at the Library Room, City Hall, from Thursday, the 11th, to Monday, the 15th inst., from one to five o'clock, P. M., each day, in order to make the necessary arrangements to carry out the views of the Common Council in an appropriate manner.

*Resolved*, That the Army and Navy of the United States, on this station, are requested to co-operate with us in making the necessary arrangements, and that the Committee on Military be requested to communicate with the commanders of the different stations.

*Resolved*, That no banner, bearing political devices or inscriptions, shall be admitted in the procession.

The Committee on Selecting an Orator reported that they had procured the services of JAMES T. BRADY, Esq., to deliver an eulogy on the character and services of the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, at Metropolitan Hall, on the evening of the 16th inst.

The report of the Committee was unanimously confirmed.

LINUS W. STEVENS, Esq., was selected as the Grand Marshal of the day.

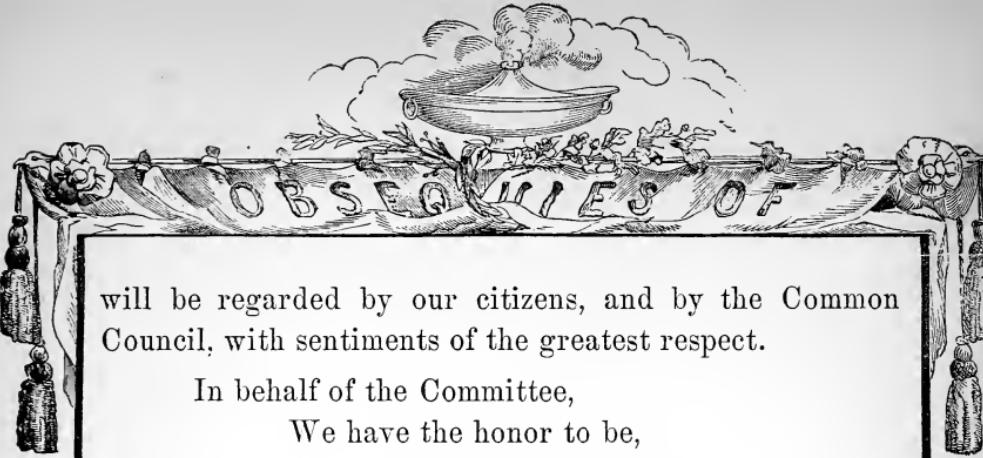
The Lafayette Fusileers, CAPT. RICHARD FRENCH, were selected as the Guard of Honor.

The Committee on Invitation, in compliance with their duty, issued the following circulars to many of the corporate institutions and distinguished gentlemen in the United States and citizens of this city:

No. 8 CITY HALL,  
NEW YORK, Nov. 4th, 1852.

SIR:—The Joint Committee of Arrangements of the Common Council of the City of New York, have the honor to extend to you a most respectful and earnest invitation to join with the Common Council of this city, and those who may unite with them, in testifying, by appropriate ceremonies, their high respect for the memory of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State of the United States of America.

The distinguished virtues, the indomitable energy, and the memorable services to the country, in the Senate and Cabinet, which have characterized the life of the illustrious deceased, and endeared him to the hearts of his countrymen, have induced our municipal authorities to regard his death as an occasion which calls for a public testimonial of affection and reverence for his memory. It has been accordingly determined that obsequies, corresponding with his character, shall be observed in this city, on the 16th day of November, inst., at which time your co-operation



# OBSEQUIES OF

will be regarded by our citizens, and by the Common Council, with sentiments of the greatest respect.

In behalf of the Committee,  
We have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servants,

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK.

No. 8 CITY HALL,  
Nov. 6th, 1852.

SIR:—The Joint Special Committee of the Common Council, appointed to make the necessary arrangements for solemnizing the obsequies of the late Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, respectfully invite you to act as Pall-Bearer on the occasion, and unite with the Common Council and citizens of New York, on the 16th inst., in this public testimony of affection and reverence to the memory of the illustrious deceased.

With high consideration, &c.,

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK.

Your Committee have great satisfaction in giving their testimony to the ardent manifestations of respect entertained by the citizens generally for the memory of the Great Defender of the Constitution and the Union, and now so amply demonstrated by their zeal in assisting your Committee in their arduous labors. Delegations from civic



# DANIEL WEBSTER

and political associations waited upon that portion of your Committee delegated to confer with them ; early replies to the communication from the Committee on Invitation were received, a portion of which only are deemed necessary for publication, and are as follows :

LINDENWALD, Nov. 11th, 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—Your letter, inviting me to join with the Common Council of the City of New York, and those who may unite with them in the observance of funeral obsequies in testimony of their high respect for the memory of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State of the United States, has been received ; and I have to ask the favor of you to express my thanks to that Honorable Body for their obliging request, and my sincere regret that it will not be in my power to assist in the performance of the proposed act of honor to the memory of a great man.

Accept, gentlemen, the assurances of the great respect with which I am,

Your obedient servant,

M. VAN BUREN.

To

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS, and  
WM. J. PECK, Esqs.

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CONCORD, N. H., Nov. 10, 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—Your letter of the 4th inst., inviting me to join with the Common Council of the City of New York, and those who may unite with them, "in testifying,

OBSEQUIES OF  
by appropriate ceremonies, their high respect for the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State of the United States," was duly received, my heart responding sadly, but fully, to the sentiments you so touchingly express; and while I cannot be present to participate with you in the testimonial of affection and reverence, I shall not fail to remember, on the day designated, that a fitting tribute is being paid by the great city to the great man.

I am, with the highest respect,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK. PIERCE.

HON. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS.  
WM. J. PECK,

*Joint Committee of the Common Council of the City of New York.*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
8 Nov. 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—I have had the honor to receive a copy of your circular of the 4th, inviting my co-operation in the tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. WEBSTER, proposed to be paid on the 16th inst., by the municipal authorities of New York.

Nothing could be more grateful to the personal friends of our illustrious and lamented statesman, than to witness these manifestations of affection and respect on the part of your great metropolis, whose importance he so well understood, in its relation to all the great interests of the country, and to which he was bound by so many private friendships. I shall be with you in spirit, but I must re-



# DANIEL WEBSTER

gret that my official duties here will not permit me to give my personal attendance.

I remain, gentlemen,  
With high respect,  
Faithfully yours,

EDWARD EVERETT.

MESSRS. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK.

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HEAD-QUARTERS, EASTERN DIVISION,  
TROY, 8th Nov., 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—Your invitation of the 4th instant was received this day.

I will be with you on the 16th, to do honor to the memory of the great statesman, who stood so long the able expounder of the Constitution, and the defender of the rights, the interests, and the honor of our common country.

Please to inform me of the place where I shall join the Common Council, and whether the ceremonies are to be exclusively civic? The question is asked in order to know in what dress it would be proper for me to appear.

With considerations of the highest respect,

I have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servant,

JOHN E. WOOL.

To

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK,

*Committee of Arrangements.*

OBSEQUIES OF

TROY, N. Y., NOVEMBER 13, 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—I regret exceedingly that a severe indisposition, which confines me to my room, will prevent me from participating with you in the interesting ceremonies to have place in your city on the 16th instant, in memory of the great civilian, statesman and patriot, DANIEL WEBSTER.

In order, however, that the Head-Quarters of the Eastern Division may be represented on this occasion, Major O. F. WINSHIP and Captain H. L. SHIELDS, of my staff, will be present, and would be happy to be assigned a place in the procession.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

JOHN E. WOOL.

MESSRS. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER, &c.,  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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UNION PLACE HOTEL, N. Y.,

Nov. 8th, 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—HON. C. P. JAMES and myself have received your invitation to attend the obsequies of the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, on the 16th inst. We both leave immediately for Boston, in order to be back in time to unite with you in paying a tribute of respect to the memory of the greatest orator and grandest intellect this continent has yet produced.

Your obedient servant,

JAS. SHIELDS.

MESSRS. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK,

*Committee of Arrangements.*



# DANIEL WEBSTER

BINGHAMPTON, Nov. 13, 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—My mournful acknowledgments are due for your invitation to unite with the Common Council of the City of New York in an appropriate tribute of respect to the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER. I regret that circumstances will not permit me to be present upon an occasion so replete with melancholy interest. It is becoming that a nation should testify its respect for the character of one of the most remarkable men who have ever lived. His venerated name will be cherished when the material monuments which a grateful people will erect to his memory shall have crumbled to their native dust, and his fame outlive the brass and marble by which his deeds are sought to be perpetuated.

I have the honor to be,  
With sincere regard,  
Your obedient servant,

D. S. DICKINSON.

MESSRS. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK.

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NEW YORK, Nov. 13, 1852.

JOHN H. CHAMBERS, Esq.

DEAR SIR :—I have to acknowledge your note of this date, requesting me, in behalf of the City Council of the City of New York, to offer a prayer, at Metropolitan Hall, on occasion of the ceremonies solemnizing the death of the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER.

Be pleased to present my thanks to the Committee for

# OBSEQUIES OF

this mark of their respect, and signify to them my acceptance of the post assigned to me.

Very respectfully,

Yours, &c.,

EDWD. LATHROP.

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NEW YORK, OCT. 12, 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—I have received your communication of the 6th inst., inviting me to act as Pall-Bearer on the occasion of the obsequies of the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, to be solemnized by the Corporation of the City of New York.

I respectfully accept the invitation, and will act in the station and on the occasion referred to.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

HIRAM KETCHAM.

HON. ABRAHAM MOORE,

AND OTHERS,

*Committee.*

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TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE HON. CORPORATION, APPOINTED TO  
CELEBRATE THE OBSEQUIES OF THE LATE HON. DANIEL WEBSTER:

GENTLEMEN:—The N. Y. S. Society of the Cincinnati are desirous of joining in the celebration of the obsequies of Mr. WEBSTER, and request to be included in your arrangements on the occasion.

I am, respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

ANTHONY LAMB,

*Pres. N. Y. S. S. Cincinnati.*

NEW YORK, Nov. 12, 1852.

**DANIEL WEBSTER**

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, COMMON  
COUNCIL, OBSEQUIES OF THE LAMENTED DANIEL WEBSTER:

GENTLEMEN:—At a meeting of the Grand Council of the Tammany Society, held at the Great Wigwam, on Thursday evening, Nov. 11th, the following resolution was unanimously passed :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Council of the Tammany Society unite with the city authorities in the funeral obsequies of the lamented DANIEL WEBSTER, and that the Committee of Arrangements of the Common Council be respectfully notified of the same.

GEORGE S. MESSERVE,  
*Father of the Council.*

CASPAR C. CHILDS, *Scribe, pro tem.*

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NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—The General Committee of the Democratic Whig Young Men acknowledge, through their Chairman, the invitation to participate in the obsequies designed, in honor of the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER, on the 16th inst., in this city.

The Committee, with thanks to the Joint Committee of Arrangements of the Common Council, will gratefully join in the services of the day, and be ready to occupy such place in the procession as they may be assigned.

Very respectfully,  
Your ob't serv't,

ERASTUS BROOKS.

To MESSRS. ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS, and  
WM. J. PECK,

*Joint Committee of Arrangements.*

OBSEQUIES OF

TAMMANY HALL,

NEW YORK, Nov. 12, 1852.

GENTLEMEN:—The Democratic Republican General Committee have directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your note, in which you extend to the Committee an invitation to join with the Common Council of the City of New York, on the 16th inst., in solemnizing the obsequies of the late Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER.

The General Committee, appreciating the courtesy of the Common Council on this occasion, and participating in the universal sorrow which this national bereavement has produced, accept your invitation, and have appointed a Committee to make suitable arrangements for the purpose of co-operating with our fellow-citizens in the contemplated mark of respect to the memory of the illustrious deceased.

With high regard and esteem,

I have the honor to remain,

Your ob't serv't,

D. E. SICKLES,

*Chm'n Cor. Committee.*

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS, and  
WM. J. PECK, Esqs.,

*Committee on Invitations.*

ASTOR HOUSE, Nov. 13, 1852.

MY DEAR FRIEND:—Please request your Committee to assign a place for the New England Society in the procession, on Tuesday next.

Truly yours,

C. A. STETSON,

*Ch'n Committee.*

ALD. STURTEVANT.



# DANIEL WEBSTER

NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1852.

GENTLEMEN :—I have the honor to inform you that the Chancery of the Order of United Americans accept the invitation of the Common Council to participate in the obsequies, on the 16th inst., in memory of that distinguished American Statesman, the late HON. DANIEL WEBSTER.

With assurances of high respect,

I have the honor to be,

Your very ob't serv't,

THOS. R. WHITNEY,

*Ch'n Com'te Arrang'm'ts.*

TO ALDERMEN

ABRAHAM MOORE,  
ISAAC O. BARKER,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
WM. J. PECK,

*Committee.*

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NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1852.

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE :

At a meeting of the Phenix Guard, it was unanimously resolved that the Company should participate in the funeral obsequies of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., and it was referred to your Honorable Body.

RICHARD H. WELCH,

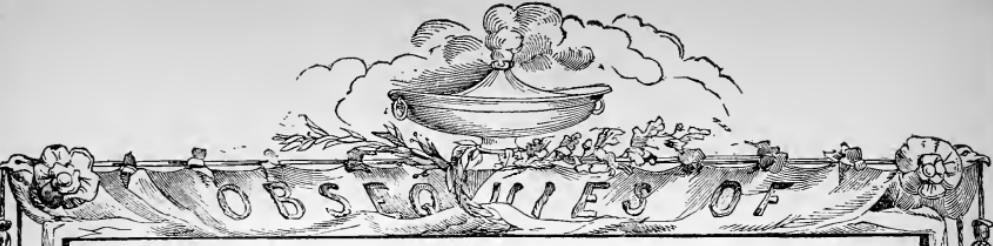
*Commandant.*

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NEW YORK, Nov. 8, 1852.

SIR :—We, members of the “ New York Free Academy Guards,” desire to participate in showing our regard for DANIEL WEBSTER, and would like a place assigned us in the procession, on the 16th inst.

CAPT. N. H. BABCOCK



## OBSEQUIES OF

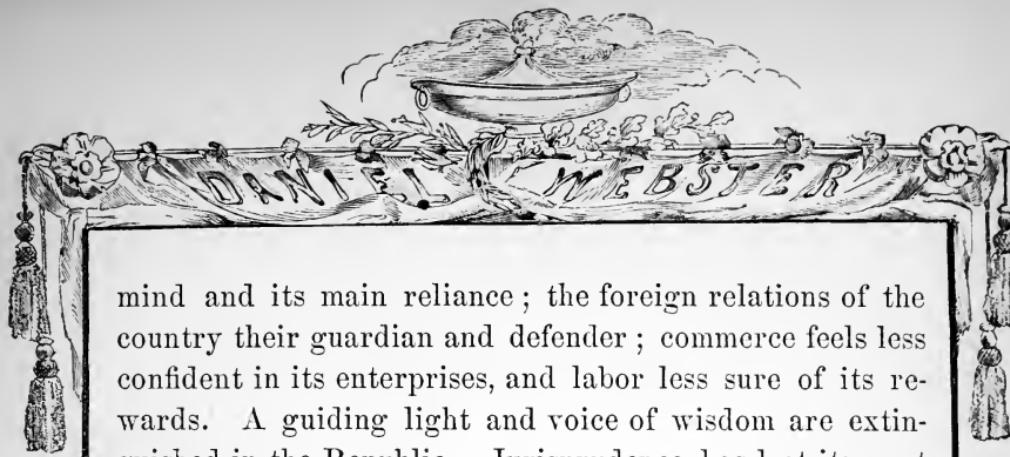
### NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A special meeting of the New York Historical Society was held in the Chapel of the University, to take action with reference to the death of Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER.

HON. LUTHER BRADISH, President, in the chair.

The meeting having been called to order, the President introduced the business for which the meeting had been called, in the following remarks :

FELLOW-MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY :—It is the peculiar duty, as it is the appropriate function of an Historical Society, to note, as they pass, the current events of the times ; to gather them up and preserve them as elements of future history. There have been few events, in the history of our country, so pregnant of interest and of consequences, and none that have so touched, in its lowest depths of feeling, the heart of the nation, as that which calls us together this evening. On lightning wings there came up to us, from every part of our widely-extended country, the sad echoes of this overwhelming event. The deep sympathies of a nation, in every form of manifestation, proclaim a nation's bereavement, and a nation's grief. An oppressive gloom overshadows the land, throbbing pulsations of grief pervade all hearts, and a foreboding anxiety saddens every mind. At the announcement of this event, the action of the nation seems to be suddenly arrested. In the consternation of the moment, each one, with bated breath, looks in the face of his fellow for that confidence and hope which he finds not in himself. The national Cabinet, at a critical moment, misses its master-



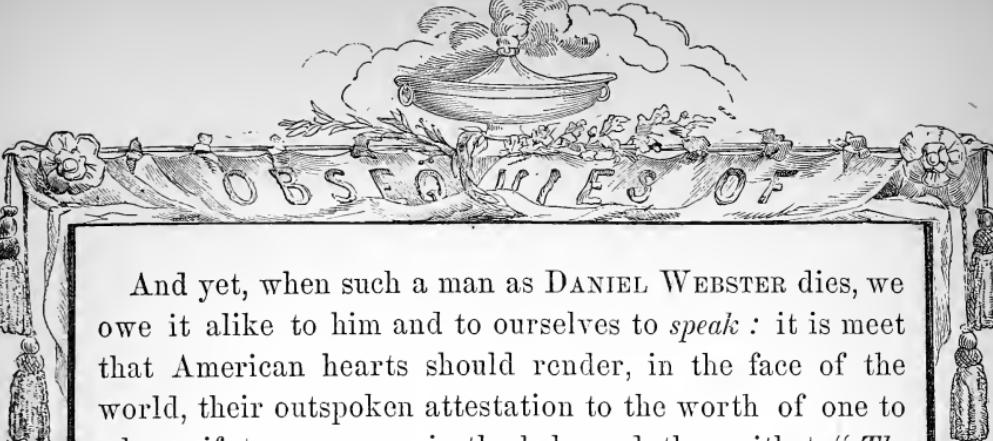
mind and its main reliance ; the foreign relations of the country their guardian and defender ; commerce feels less confident in its enterprises, and labor less sure of its rewards. A guiding light and voice of wisdom are extinguished in the Republic. Jurisprudence has lost its most brilliant ornament, eloquence its embodied spirit, and the social circle its most attractive centre. Humanity mourns the loss of one of her most gifted sons, the Constitution and the Union one of their ablest defenders, and the country one of its most self-sacrificing patriots.

It is at long intervals that Heaven, in its munificence, vouchsafes to the world such men with such minds as DANIEL WEBSTER. They come not often in any age. They are rather beacon lights, sparsely scattered along the track of ages, to guide and shape the destiny of nations. It is such a light that has now, "in a blaze of glory, sunk below the horizon of time, and become immortal in the two worlds at the same moment."

It is to testify the Society's sense of such a loss, and to do honor to the memory of such a man, that we are now assembled.

Rev. Dr. HAWKS then rose and said :

Mr. PRESIDENT :—A sad duty has been confided to me, and I, in common with my countrymen, mourn over the occasion which calls for its performance. When I recall the saddened expression which, for the last week, I have seen on the countenances of my fellow citizens, when I observe the deep stillness which pervades this hall, I feel that *words* are scarce necessary to render the tribute that we fain would yield to the memory of the illustrious man to whom you have alluded. Our hearts are already rendering that tribute by expressive silence.



## OBSEQUIES OF

And yet, when such a man as DANIEL WEBSTER dies, we owe it alike to him and to ourselves to *speak*: it is meet that American hearts should render, in the face of the world, their outspoken attestation to the worth of one to whom, if to any man, justly belonged the epithet, "*The Great American.*"

I am unmeet to speak his eulogy; I came not here for that purpose. Let that task be committed to a more skillful tongue than mine. Should I make the effort, the feelings under which I labor would disqualify me for the performance. But thus much will I venture to say: the head and the heart constitute all that really make the man. Of his high intellectual powers, so happily blended, the story has at once been told with equal brevity and beauty by one of the worthiest of his countrymen, in a single sentence. In his illustrations of mind, "the lightning of passion flashed along the links of the iron chain of argument." And, sir, of his heart, and that deep sea of human affection in which it floated, the story is one just as long as his life, and of touching beauty. You may read its beginning in the picture of the New Hampshire farmer's boy, whose deep and generous fraternal love consecrated his earliest earnings to a beloved brother's education; you may read its close in the honest tears shed over his remains by the faithful, though humble dependents, who, for ten, twenty, aye, even thirty years, had loved his service because they knew his kindness.

But, sir, he has only gone before us; he is not lost to us. He yet lives. True, we have said "earth to earth" over that which was mortal; but he has left behind him that which I would fain believe his countrymen "will not willingly let die."

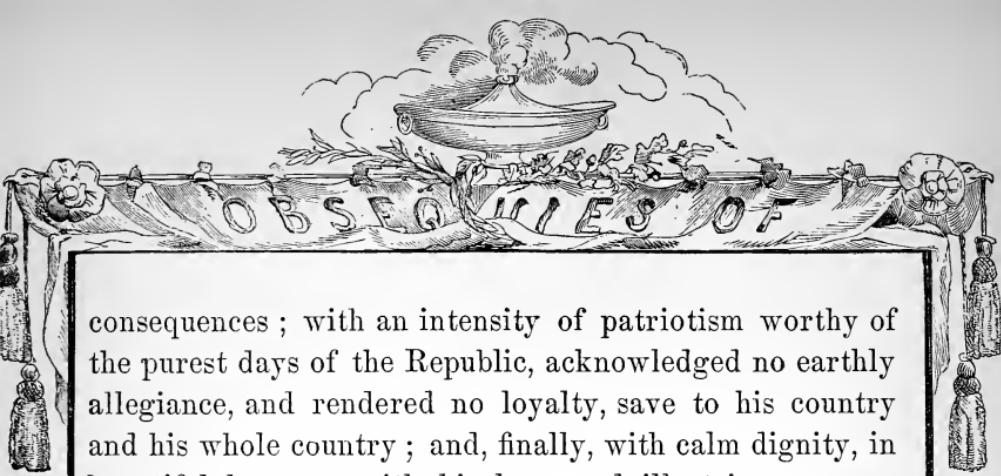


## DANIEL WEBSTER

It only remains to discharge the duty attached to me by submitting the following preamble and resolutions:

*Whereas*, The dispensation of an all-wise Providence has removed from the earth Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State of the United States, and for nearly half a century associated in the councils and identified with the history of the nation ; and

*Whereas*, (To use his own most appropriate and expressive language,) "it is fit that we commemorate the services of national benefactors, extol their virtues, and render thanks to God for eminent blessings, early given, and long-continued to our favored country ;" therefore, we, the New York Historical Society, as a body, would add our mournful tribute to the sounds of sorrow, which now come up from a nation's heart, at the bereavement which but too forcibly reminds us of one who, springing from the ranks of the people, evinced, with the generosity natural to youth, the resolute determination that belongs to the maturity of manhood, and with indefatigable industry, surmounting obstacles amidst the vast labors of an arduous profession and continuous devotion to legislative duties, prosecuted his extended researches into the domains of general learning, having acquired in early life those solid attainments which formed the strong foundation on which he reared, in after-times, an intellectual structure, on which men looked with undiminished admiration to the last, brought to the service of his country the best labors of his head, and the best affections of his heart ; maintained his principles with an energy, manliness and eloquence worthy of an American statesman ; with an indomitable moral courage, stood ever fearlessly in the front rank in defence of the Constitution, regardless of personal



consequences ; with an intensity of patriotism worthy of the purest days of the Republic, acknowledged no earthly allegiance, and rendered no loyalty, save to his country and his whole country ; and, finally, with calm dignity, in beautiful harmony with his long and illustrious career, met death with a "reasonable, religious and holy hope," thus, after "sounding all the depths and shoals of honor," adding the weight of his testimony to the truth of God, and relinquishing the glories of the statesman to repose his soul in the humblest hope of the Christian.

*Resolved*, That, while we thus feebly express our sympathies in a nation's loss, we feel the true and appropriate tribute which becomes American citizens is, in youth, to imitate his indefatigable industry ; in manhood, his honorable and disinterested patriotism ; and so to live, that, in old age, theirs may be, as was his, the tranquil composure which, resting on a Christian's hope, disarmed death of his terrors.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be entered on the Journal of the Society, and a copy thereof, duly authenticated by the officers of the New York Historical Society, be forwarded to the immediate relatives of Mr. WEBSTER.

The foregoing resolutions were reported by a Committee, composed of the following named gentlemen :

J. PRESCOTT HALL,	HIRAM KETCHUM,
REV. WM. ADAMS, D.D.,	LUTHER R. MARSH,
MARSHALL S. BIDWELL,	GEORGE H. MOORE,
EDWARD CURTIS,	AUGUSTUS SCHELL,
FRED. DE PEYSTER,	CHAS. A. STETSON,
REV. THOS. DE WITT, D.D.,	GULIAN C. VERPLANCK,
REV. FRANCIS L. HAWKS, D.D.	

LUTHER R. MARSH, Esq., seconded the resolutions, and said :



## DANIEL WEBSTER

This Society, Mr. President, whose purpose it is to hold the past and give it perpetuity, must pause at this most melancholy event of present history. The fabric of American history is interwrought with the golden threads of WEBSTER's life and name. He was a part of all its great events. Those whose enactment was too early for his participation, he has touched with the immortality of his eloquence. His great thoughts enrich our legislative libraries, illumine the leaves on which the jurist searches for his light, adorn the volumes of our national literature, and are ineffaceably imprinted on the hearts of the American people. His splendid sentences, informed with noble sentiment, will always, as now, echo in our schools, gladden and teach the memories of our students and statesmen, and enter, as they already have entered, into the very constitution of American mind.

The priceless Charter of our Union—that political law of gravitation—binding these planetary States within their orbits—has received additional assurance of its power, necessity and permanence, by the life and by the words of its great defender.

He has added durability to granite—that sacred rock, against whose defiant breast the surges of the sea had broken from the world's earliest youth, and which opened its flinty portals to receive the rich freight that leapt from the MAYFLOWER's deck—he smote with his magic wand, and abundant streams of grand suggestion will flow thence forever.

The immortal mound, from whence triumphal notes of freedom flew through every State and to every heart, sustains a commemorative shaft, which, speaking to the long line of generations yet to come, will ever flame with WEBSTER's words of fire.

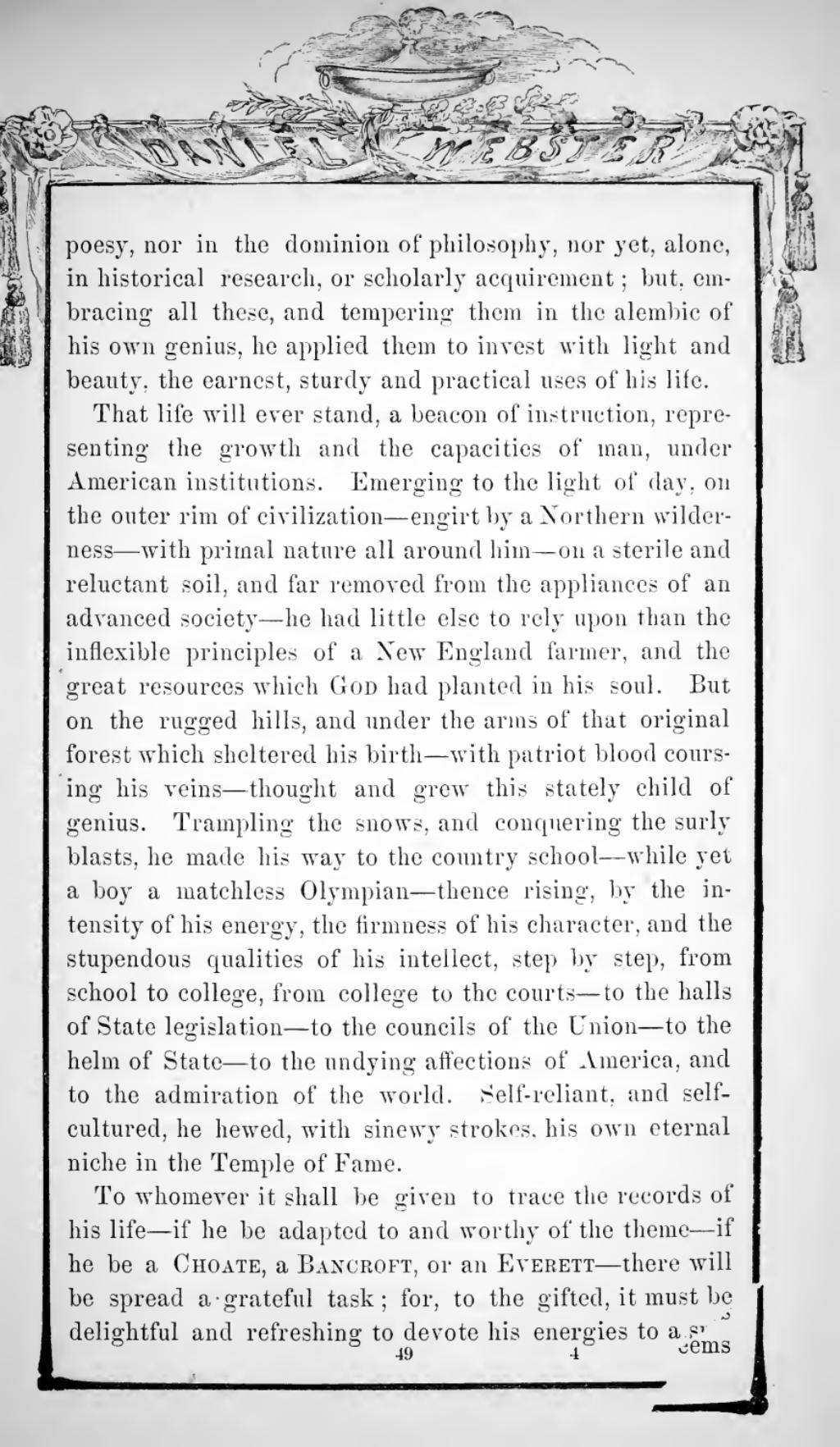
## OBSEQUIES OF

The names and deeds of our heroes shine yet more luminously through the atmosphere in which he has enwrapped them, and his glowing words hang like starry coronets over that consecrated mount, that holds the ashes of the Father of our Country.

At rare intervals, it has pleased Almighty God to give the world great types of the race—extraordinary endowments—as if to show us glimpses of the grandeur and the possibilities of our nature. As we look down the long track of Time, we discover, at distant periods, rising high above the level of mankind, a few of these conspicuous landmarks of humanity. The lives of such men are eras. Though they bow to the common lot of mortality, and pass to higher spheres, they yet live in the world they first inhabited, by the influence of their example and the record of their thoughts; they still lift their heads—some through the mists of centuries—and retreating Time but enlarges their proportions.

Of these transcendent natures, none stand forth in greater intellectual majesty and supremacy than he who was yesterday committed to the tomb. The attributes and the insignia of greatness clustered about him, were stamped on his expansive brow, flashed from his unfathomable eye, spoke in his trumpet-tones, and throbbed in his mighty heart. His mind, cast in the finest and most colossal mould, freighted with argosies of knowledge, and singularly harmonizing with a nature, broad, vast and genial, seemed never to have been stirred to its utmost depths; but, however impassioned or aroused, to hold back reserves of power, which no occasion had ever called upon him to exhaust. His presence, grand, impressive, God-like, embellished and uplifted our common humanity.

His years, sir, were not spent in the exclusive realm of  
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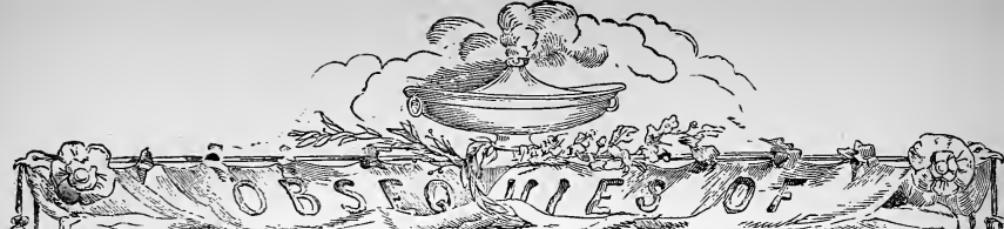


# DANIEL WEBSTER

poesy, nor in the dominion of philosophy, nor yet, alone, in historical research, or scholarly acquirement; but, embracing all these, and tempering them in the alembic of his own genius, he applied them to invest with light and beauty, the earnest, sturdy and practical uses of his life.

That life will ever stand, a beacon of instruction, representing the growth and the capacities of man, under American institutions. Emerging to the light of day, on the outer rim of civilization—engirt by a Northern wilderness—with primal nature all around him—on a sterile and reluctant soil, and far removed from the appliances of an advanced society—he had little else to rely upon than the inflexible principles of a New England farmer, and the great resources which God had planted in his soul. But on the rugged hills, and under the arms of that original forest which sheltered his birth—with patriot blood coursing his veins—thought and grew this stately child of genius. Trampling the snows, and conquering the surly blasts, he made his way to the country school—while yet a boy a matchless Olympian—thence rising, by the intensity of his energy, the firmness of his character, and the stupendous qualities of his intellect, step by step, from school to college, from college to the courts—to the halls of State legislation—to the councils of the Union—to the helm of State—to the undying affections of America, and to the admiration of the world. Self-reliant, and self-cultured, he hewed, with sinewy strokes, his own eternal niche in the Temple of Fame.

To whomever it shall be given to trace the records of his life—if he be adapted to and worthy of the theme—if he be a CHOATE, a BANCROFT, or an EVERETT—there will be spread a grateful task; for, to the gifted, it must be delightful and refreshing to devote his energies to a <sup>st</sup> <sub>ems</sub> series

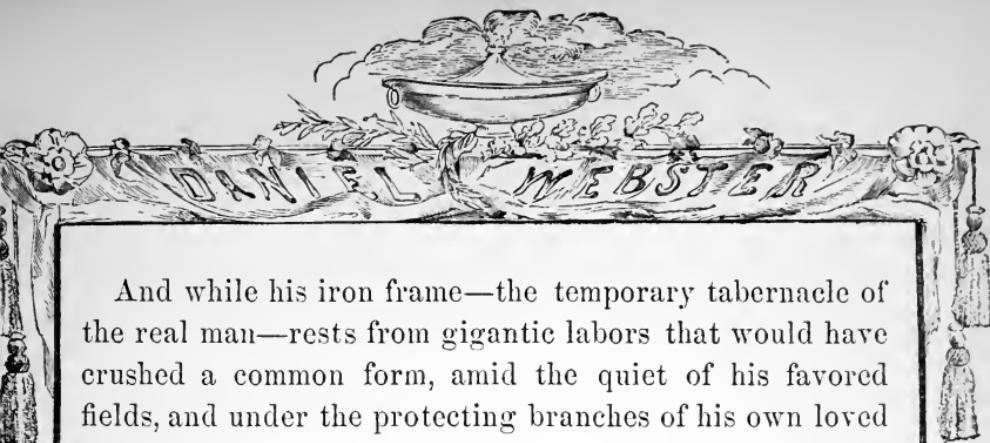


## OBSEQUIES OF

ject upon which, without incurring the charge of exaggeration, he may pour out, in unrestricted utterance, the fullness of his inspiration.

No man, surely, sir, has left this life amidst a profounder or more extended grief. A universal sentiment affects the nation. Our public columns are wreathed in black. Our courts adjourn—our public offices are closed—the wheels of business stopped—all classes, callings and professions, societies and institutions, cities and States, send their incense of sorrow to the skies. The Press discards the common topics of the day, and drapes its million issues in the badge of woe. Hostile parties pause, on the very verge of conflict, and swell the mourning dirge. The flags of other nations stop, mid-mast, to pay their tribute of sorrow and respect. In whatever waters our navy rocks, the national banner droops in gloom. Wherever the sons of America are found, whether on the Atlantic or Pacific border—whether under the rising, the zenith, or the setting sun—there, are bosoms struggling with emotion; and through tongues of bells the funeral anthem rings upon the air.

He, whom we mourn, approached the end of one world, and the beginning of another, with consciousness unclouded—with a sublime serenity, patience and submission—by the calmness of his death attesting his faith in the future; and as the glimmering landscape of this earth faded to his sight, and the divine strains of Job lingered in his memory, the soothing images of his favorite poem floated before his mind, and his ear caught the solemn curfew tolling the knell of his descending day. Ere yet the morning stars had closed their songs, at that beautiful hour, so loved by him, so sought and so appreciated, his eyes opened upon Go<sup>d</sup>, His mysteries of the Spirit World.

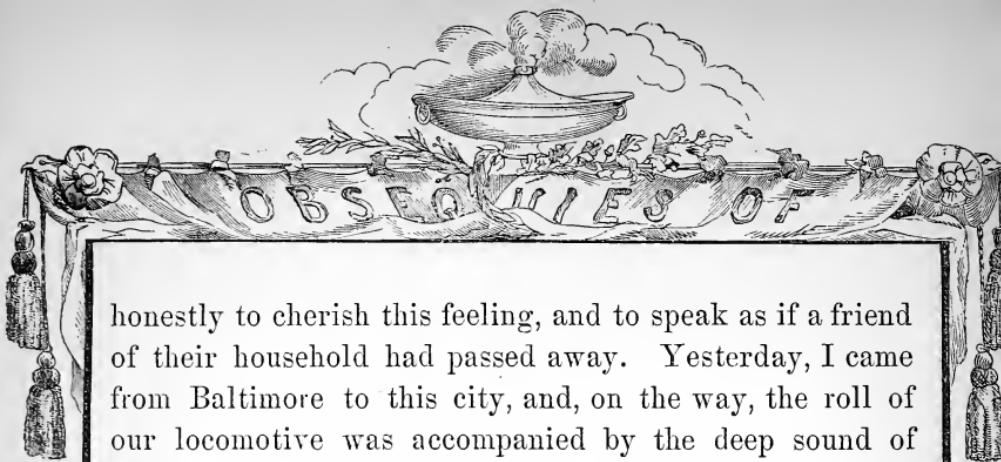


And while his iron frame—the temporary tabernacle of the real man—rests from gigantic labors that would have crushed a common form, amid the quiet of his favored fields, and under the protecting branches of his own loved trees—a sacred spot of pilgrimage hereafter—afar from party strife, from political turmoil, from the clang of commerce, from legal contests and legislative debate, with his own kindred sleeping around him, in Pilgrim soil, fast by the rock that greeted the Pilgrim's feet, with the resounding voices of the waves, in varied chorus, chanting his ocean requiem to the end of Time—his own great spirit, joining the illustrious and the good that have preceded him from all the rolling years, will advance to new and brighter attainments, in the unfolding, but exhaustless, knowledge of eternity.

Rev. SAMUEL OSGOOD said :

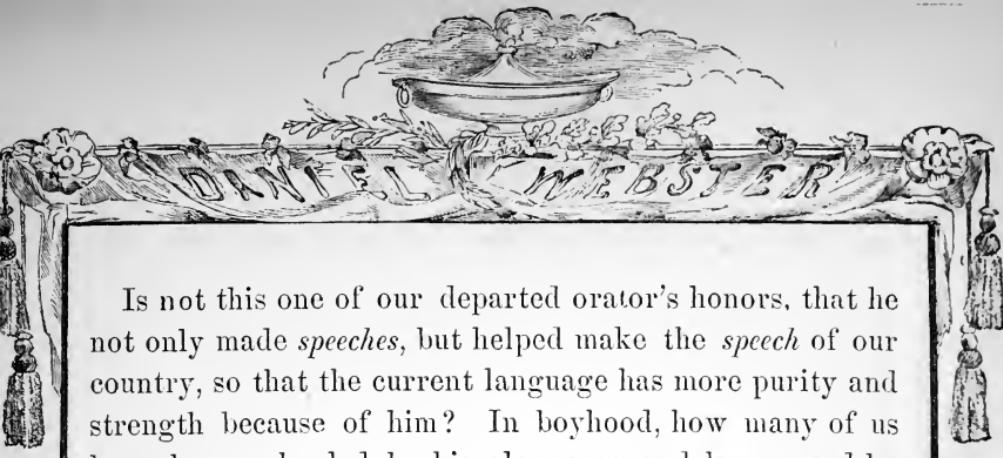
Mr. PRESIDENT :—Most of us came here this evening, attracted by the list of speakers announced in the newspapers, and expecting to be charmed by their eloquence, and melted by their pathos—with no other office devolving upon ourselves than the privilege of being listeners. We have not been disappointed, except in the pause that has now come over the meeting, and I am tempted to say, even if very roughly, a simpler word than has been spoken.

Is there not something in the departure of our great statesman that brings him near our common sympathies, and makes us think of the man even more than the orator and jurist? His last hours, so full of tender humanity, take us to his very bedside, and his funeral rites, so simple and affecting, lead us to that village house, and make us all one with that train of mourners. The country seems



honestly to cherish this feeling, and to speak as if a friend of their household had passed away. Yesterday, I came from Baltimore to this city, and, on the way, the roll of our locomotive was accompanied by the deep sound of minute guns; and in every intervening city and village, the drooping flags spoke the general sympathy of the people with the bereavement of the nation. The thought of that simple burial service, yesterday, in Marshfield, with the voice of the village minister asking God's blessing upon the mourners, in the time-hallowed, plain manner of that Pilgrim race, connects that scene with our common lot, and binds the name of the illustrious statesman to the home-feelings of our people. How can we help thinking of him as one of ourselves, sharing our own early struggles with fortune, and keeping himself within our republican sympathies, even to death and after death! Fitly crowns of oak upon his coffin indicated the strength of his intellect, and wreaths of flowers from the garden breathed the tenderness of his affections.

I would say, or try to say, one thing which concerns us closely, as a Historical Society, in connection with DANIEL WEBSTER's name. What, sir, is the greatest and most enduring of historical monuments? Is it edifices of stone? Is it cities, empires, or even races of men? Palaces and temples may go back to dust, cities disappear, empires vanish, and races die out. But speech remains, and bears, throughout changing ages, the great thoughts of able minds. Speech is the most subtle and indestructible power of man; and the Creator himself, when borrowing from earthly language a name for his own revealing power, called it the Word. The pre-eminent historical men are those who have moulded the speech of nations.



Is not this one of our departed orator's honors, that he not only made *speeches*, but helped make the *speech* of our country, so that the current language has more purity and strength because of him? In boyhood, how many of us have been schooled by his eloquence, and been saved by its massive simplicity from the feeble verbiage and the vulgar coarseness too ready to corrupt our tongue? Last winter, after the great meeting at Metropolitan Hall, in honor of COOPER's memory, I chanced upon an interview with Mr. WEBSTER, who had presided over that assembly, and took occasion to thank him for the influence of his eloquence upon the schools of the nation. I told him that if they who had spoken his speeches in their boyhood, had been asked to rise and stand before him at that meeting, the evening before, I believed that a thousand stout men would have stood up to thank him with their cheers. He seemed touched by the remark, and said, very feelingly, that it was a great thing for any man to hear such an assurance of his own influence. True, surely, it is that the youth of our nation have purified and strengthened their speech in the severe, but generous school of our orator's eloquence.

To frame such speech as his, implies no ordinary power. indicates no common experience. No classical learning, no rhetorical training, give it of themselves. It must grow out of a life deeply rooted in reality, and in close sympathy with the common mind. DANIEL WEBSTER learned to speak in the school of Nature and Providence, and his whole career, from boyhood to old age—his life on the farm, at college, in law, in politics, in society, under the open heavens, and in presence of God and the Gospel—passed into his mind, and uttered itself in his word. The



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great word-masters of our race have not been word-mongers, dealing in empty sound ; they have taken the strongest hold of the realities of existence, and their word has been the voice of their inmost life. WEBSTER has embodied the practical mind of our nation in his word, and our nationality, so indissolubly connected with his eloquence, has been made by him a winged and imperishable essence, floating in the very atmosphere of the ages. Poorly, indeed, I am illustrating the thoughts in my mind. I leave it with you in a single sentence, and say as I close :

The historical mission of DANIEL WEBSTER ; the language of our country is his monument—the household words of our patriotism are stamped with his name.

Dr. JOHN W. FRANCIS, LL.D., followed, and said :

Mr. PRESIDENT :—It is quite impossible for me to refrain from some expression of the deep sympathy I feel, with you all, in the public misfortune which has brought us together ; and, I hope, many years of association with the illustrious deceased, will justify me in paying a slight tribute to his memory. The universality of the sorrow and the praise elicited by the death of Mr. WEBSTER, is his most significant eulogy. It is remembered now, with tears and benedictions, that he invariably sacrificed party considerations and personal interests for the good of his country ; that he always marched bravely into the breach which sectional animosity made in the holy wall of our Union ; that the details of political aims were instantly forgotten, when any great question was at issue : in a word, that the prominent qualities of Mr. WEBSTER were those of the great statesman and the genuine patriot. Such is the final estimate even of the bitterest speculative



## DANIEL WEBSTER

opponent of the deceased, and in this glorious recognition of a truly noble character, we find ample reason for the deep and unprecedented feeling which pervades the land. But here we may be permitted to indulge in less general emotions: it is given us to mourn not only the great Senator and the illustrious Secretary of State, but the scholar, the companion, the historical man of our country, whose writings identify his name forever with our institutions, and whose friendship was among the richest treasures of our society. He was one of us by virtue of the ardent love he bore the records of the past, and the high appreciation he entertained of the dignity of historical learning. It is a sad, yet delightful coincidence, that his last great effort was made at the invitation and for the benefit of the New York Historical Society.

DANIEL WEBSTER was the ideal of an American citizen. The simple and stately grandeur of his style, the strong basis of good sense, the firmness of purpose, the directness of expression, the unanswerable logic, and, above all, the clear, emphatic statement of his thoughts, are all characteristic of the American mind in its highest development. The charm of his intellectual power, when genially exerted, was as attractive as HAMILTON's, while his practical wisdom resembled that of FRANKLIN. I recall with pleasure a conversation once held with him, with regard to that illustrious sage. No individual throughout our wide domain cherished a deeper reverence for the talents and services of this incomparable man, than did Mr. WEBSTER. In a discussion which arose among some friends, at a social board, Mr. WEBSTER was asked his opinion concerning the political and fiscal integrity of FRANKLIN—a subject which had been agitated with some asperity. "Gentlemen," answered Mr. WEBSTER, "the

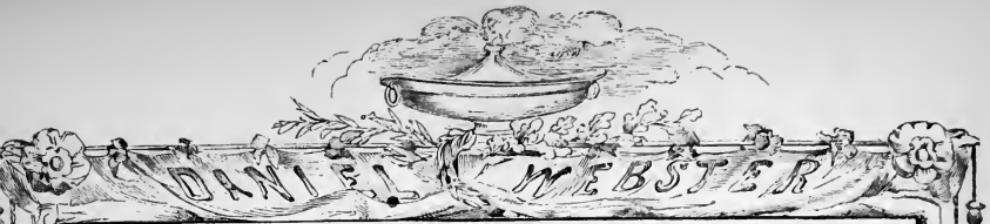
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topic is too broad for present discussion. Among all our political men, FRANKLIN stands prominent for astuteness, sagacity, and integrity. Amidst all his negotiations, though the depository of innumerable State transactions, he was never known to betray the slightest secret, or to utter a hint from which a sinister revelation might occur. As to his fiscal integrity, who knew him better than WASHINGTON? And had the slightest blemish rested upon that portion of his character, would that exalted man have nominated him as the first President of the Union, and at the same time when he himself was waited upon by authorized delegates to urge him to accept that vast trust? I want no other demonstration of the incorruptible principles of FRANKLIN than that nomination by WASHINGTON."

The universality of Mr. WEBSTER'S knowledge was remarkable. He rivaled BURKE in the instructiveness of his conversation. Who that has ever enjoyed the luxury of listening to his rich fund of incidents, touching the career of our illustrious patriots of Revolutionary renown—OTIS, JOHN and SAMUEL ADAMS, HANCOCK, Secretary THOMPSON, PATRICK HENRY, MADISON, and others—can ever forget the vivid portraits he presented of those chivalric personages?

What a felicitous example, among many others, have we of that descriptive and anecdotal vein of our departed friend, in the composition which he has given us of the speech ascribed to the elder ADAMS, as delivered in the Continental Congress, on the subject of the declaration of American independence!

Upon agriculture, he would talk by the hour, with a cognizance of details truly surprising in a man who performed such incessant duties to the State. Hear him on trees and their properties, and you would infer he had



long lived an arboriculturalist. LINNEUS would have been enraptured listening to the merits of his old correspondent, BARTRAM, the botanist and traveler, as unfolded by Mr. WEBSTER. His reading in natural history was very extensive, ranging from THEOPHRASTUS, on stones, to AUDUBON, on birds. He gave great credit to JEFFERSON for his researches in this department, made while he was so young a man, and at a period when physical science was so little cultivated in our country.

Will the Society pardon me, if I detain them a moment longer? The professional life of the physician has its corroding cares; but it is not barren of grateful incidents, arising out of its intricate relations with the great and the good, amidst the diversified occurrences of physical sufferings and mental intercommunion. During a period of some fifteen years, my medical intercourse with the illustrious deceased, on his visitations to this city, was to myself a source of genuine gratification and instruction. The wide grasp of his mind and the fullness of his knowledge demonstrated that characteristic which the Germans have denominated "the many-sided." However diversified might be the range of conversation, it was stamped with his own individual elaboration, and poured forth with a free and untrammeled utterance that marked a strong reliance on himself, and a conviction becoming the man who aimed so largely at the practical and the ennobling. He was remarkable for his frankness, yet winning and persuasive; and, while solicitous of convincing, was wholly free from dogmatic presumption, either in matter or in manner. His dexterity in repartee was felicitous, yet governed by the impulses of a benevolent and tolerant disposition. I think I know enough of his inward emotions to affirm that he detested the artifices and expedients

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so interwoven with the cares and aspirations of the life of the mere politician, with the most abiding and cordial hatred. The fates had destined him for the management of State affairs, yet I feel the strongest conviction that greater joys and deeper gratifications would have flowed in upon his soul, devoted to the sublime pursuits of philosophical and natural science. He may have felt how vast was that fame which might hereafter associate his name with WASHINGTON's and FRANKLIN's, yet a stimulus to action no less potent, if not more so, might have swayed his career as a disciple of the school of Lord BACON. Universal, indeed, as was his renown, achieved amidst the severer trials of his country, he would, for his own individual solace, have preferred PLATO, in the groves of Academus, to SOLOX, encompassed by the Athenian multitude. I am speaking of the philosophical tendency of his intellect.

In casting my eyes around me, I see in this assembly, many individuals who graced the public celebration which took place in this city, in 1831, to honor Mr. WEBSTER, for his successful and important efforts in Congress, the preceding season, in reference to the Constitution of the United States. That occasion can never be forgotten by those who in anywise were participants in it. Never before had this great metropolis made such demonstrations of its patriotism ; never was a nobler tribute bestowed on the genius and wisdom of those exalted spirits who framed the Constitution of the general government. New York had furnished its full quota for the triumph. The venerable KENT, who presided at that memorable festival, must have received new life and fresh vigor in the contemplation of those captivating portraits of the founders of the Republic, which the gifted WEBSTER presented with such



disernimating judgment and admirable tact. How could it be otherwise with the enlightened and cultivated Chancellor? Many of the individuals, whom Mr. WEBSTER passed in review, were of that noble band who had, during a long life, often co-operated with the eminent jurist in laying the foundation, and in rearing, in his native country, that temple of juridical science, the rays of which were to illumine the paths of its worshippers for all after-time. And when, with a skill not unlike that of a master chirurgeon, the great orator, dismembering the gangrenous adhesions of nullification, covertly intended to corrupt the Constitution at its very vitals, and pollute the very channels of its alimentary support, exclaimed, with prodigious force, "New York, that prosperous State, is the greatest link in the chain of the Union, and will ever be, I am sure, the strongest, also," could a more sublime manifestation of love of country work upon the feelings of the beholder, than that grasp of the hand which Mr. WEBSTER received from the eminent Chancellor, and from his old associate in his legal labors, Chief Justice SPENCER. The scene was worthy of the pencil of our TRUMBULL.

I have often profited largely by those casual intervals of intercourse with Mr. WEBSTER, which the sick room affords to the physician. He endured the annoyances of physical pain with becoming fortitude, and was accommodating in a remarkable degree to the suggestions for relief which the exigencies of the moment pointed out. "As you please," he would say. His mind was ever heroic, whatever might have been his bodily distress. A slight alleviation of pain was frequently the precursor of higher intellectual activity, and his thoughts seemed to find a freer utterance, and his feelings a warmer tone, than under other circumstances. It was at such times that he abounded

most in anecdote. The verses by COWPER, on ALEXANDER SELKIRK, were cited by him, on one of these occasions, as among the most admirable of that poet's writings, and the sentiment of the lonely islander dwelt upon with a depth and tenderness of appreciation, which showed how honest was his love of nature and independent life. COWPER'S verses led to the mention of DEFOE. "I annually read Robinson Crusoe," he continued : "'I was born in the year 1632, in the city of York.' I think, Doctor, I know the book pretty well by heart."

The reputation of PATRICK HENRY may possibly not be increased by an anecdote which Mr. WEBSTER gave concerning the biographer of the renowned orator, on the authority of Mr. JEFFERSON himself. Upon the publication of his life of HENRY, Mr. WIRT transmitted a copy of it to Mr. JEFFERSON, and, after a silence of some time, addressed a note to the Ex-President, requesting his opinion of the work. JEFFERSON, in return, wrote : "I have divided my library into two parts—one for works of fiction and the other for works of fact; my mind is not yet decided in which compartment I shall place your volume."

Professionally, I may be allowed to say that Mr. WEBSTER offered an extraordinary instance of the influence of an enlarged and active mind upon a naturally fine physical organization. His brain may be said to have consumed his body. The constant drafts upon his nervous system, his incessant exercise of the thinking faculty, made gradual but visible inroads upon his vital powers. And yet how serenely triumphed that mind at the close ! How the intellect retained self-possession and clearness to the last ! As love of country guided him while living, so did the consolations of Christianity support him in the hours of

death. Never did a great man die with more unaffected courage, grateful submission, and true reliance on GOD.

It is known that the great sculptor THORWALDSEN, seeing Mr. WEBSTER's bust, by our countryman POWERS, thought it a copy from some antique of JOVE, so massive and ponderous, but harmonious, was the astonishing development of the organs of intelligence; and I cannot help a feeling of regret that (if what the public papers declare be true) that wonderful cerebral structure should have been disintegrated, through an unhallowed curiosity for experimental research.

CARLYLE said of him, that he was the only man he had ever seen who realized his idea of a statesman. That firm, broad and noble figure stands out, indeed, on the tablet of memory, as does his name on the roll of his country's benefactors. There was a proportion no less grand and harmonious in his career and genius. The uniform self-respect which marked his intercourse with others; the utter freedom of his most private discourse from every thing exceptionable; the sustained dignity of his bearing; his love of nature, of the ever fresh and enduring old English authors—these, and kindred traits, conform to the enlarged grasp of his mind, and the majestic simplicity of his eloquence. His revised and collected discourses are the most valuable literary bequest yet made to the Republic; his fame is the most precious inheritance of her children, save that of WASHINGTON; and his example should be a new inspiration to every citizen who glories in the title of American.

The philosophic PRIESTLEY, filled with gratitude toward the land of his adoption, in his last moments, in 1804, gave assurance to Mr. JEFFERSON that he was happy in having lived so long under his excellent administration. I bor-

now the sentiment, and thank GOD that I have lived in a period in which I was permitted to enjoy some little intercourse with DANIEL WEBSTER.

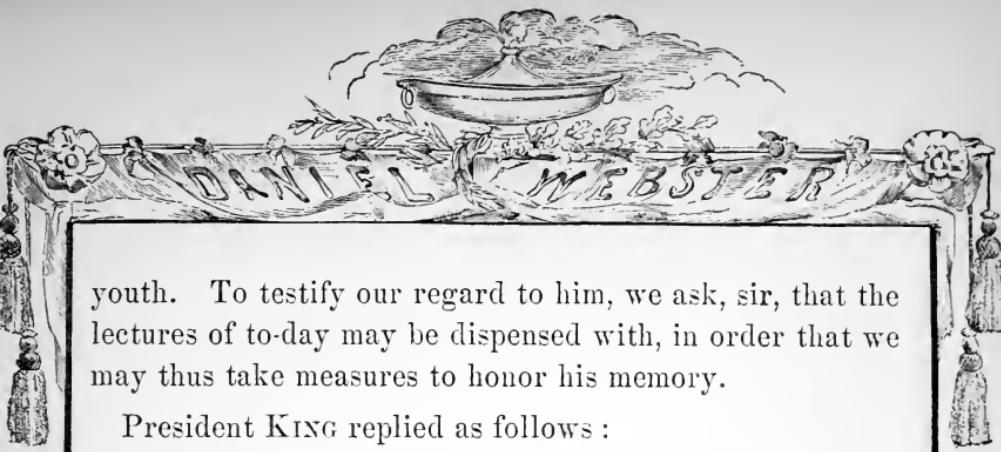
I have trespassed too long on your indulgence, and I cannot but be conscious that it is in vain to attempt to attach praise to one so much above all praise, in his capacities and in his labors ; and, if it were not so, how should I think any declaration of mine could be remembered, on a subject which is already illustrated by the genius of our CICERO—of EDWARD EVERETT—who stands towering, in classic beauty and grandeur, in the waste left by him who was “above all Greek, above all Roman fame.”

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### COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

After the usual Chapel exercises in Columbia College had been gone through, Mr. VAN DUZER, of the Senior Class, rose and made the following remarks :

MR. PRESIDENT :—I rise on behalf of my fellow-students, to perform one of the most painful duties of my life. Already has the news traversed with lightning speed the length and breadth of our land. DANIEL WEBSTER is no more ! The statesman, the jurist, the defender of the Constitution has departed from us. This is no time to pronounce his eulogy. “ His fame, indeed, is now safe. That is now treasured up beyond the reach of accident. Although no sculptured marble should rise to his memory, nor engraved stone bear record of his deeds, yet will his remembrance be as lasting as the land he honored.” If I might presume to mention one quality more conspicuous in him than another, it would be his regard to American



youth. To testify our regard to him, we ask, sir, that the lectures of to-day may be dispensed with, in order that we may thus take measures to honor his memory.

President KING replied as follows :

Young gentlemen of the College, I have listened with great sensibility to the request made in such fitting terms and in such a becoming manner, by Mr. VAN DUZER, in behalf of his fellow-students, that I would consent to suspend the exercises of the College to-day, in respect to the memory of the great man deceased, DANIEL WEBSTER.

I acquiesce at once in the request; for DANIEL WEBSTER was one well fitted to inspire American youth with admiration and respect; for he was a type of his country. Eminently American in mental and physical structure, massive, symmetrical and vigorous, alike in mind and in body—the child of the people—owing nothing to birth, fortune or station—educated in the common schools of New England—he was the founder of his own position.

Gifted by God with a mighty intellect, and with a will scarcely less mighty, to train and improve the intellect, he had early seen the value of education, and had pursued uninterruptedly the labor necessary for such a result. It is in this view especially becoming that youths, themselves engaged in the pursuits of learning, should seek to honor the memory of one who had so much dignified learning in all its varied departments. This College too, which had honored itself by awarding one of its highest honors to the early public services of DANIEL WEBSTER, is fitly called upon to take its part in the expression of the nation's grief. And well may the nation grieve. For under the broad canopy of heaven, there was not probably the superior in intellectual gifts and earnest patriotism, of DANIEL WEBSTER.

## OBSE

This is not the time or the occasion for any review of his eminent career; but in ceding to your request, I cannot forbear to add that the scene of his death-bed, as shadowed forth to us by telegraph is not less becoming, and is even more impressive than his eminent public life. It was vouchsafed to him to look with steady eye and with unshrinking reliance upon the merits of the Savior and on the approach of death. He saw that his days were numbered. He himself calculated, almost grain by grain, the ebbing sands; not with any lingering hope or querulous regrets, but calmly, resignedly and as a Christian, well assured that death was but a portal of everlasting life. His thoughts were of his family, of his friends, of his neighbors. He had given his life to his country. His last moments he gave to his family and to GOD.

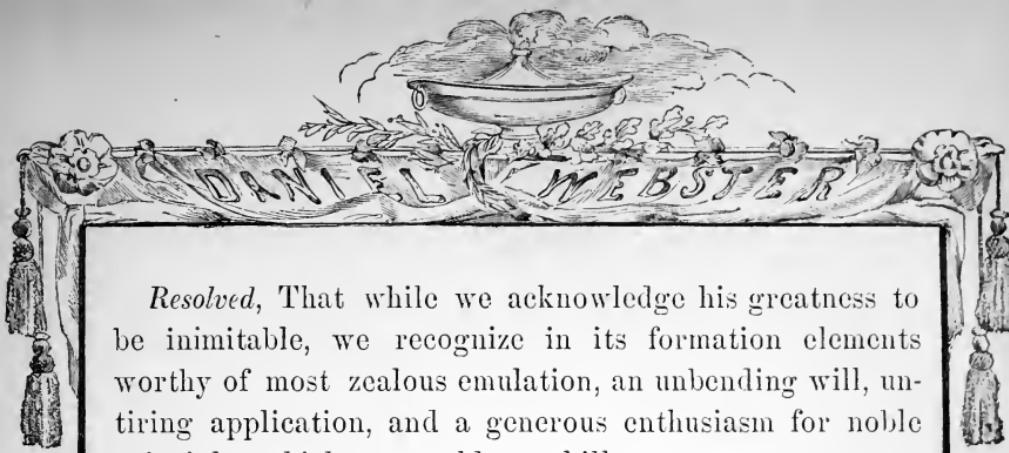
Young gentlemen, in the career of DANIEL WEBSTER, you have an example worthy to stimulate you in life. In his death-bed, consoled with all a Christian's graces, you have that which may smooth for you the path to the grave.

The exercises of the College were suspended for the day.

The Committee appointed to draft resolutions, reported the following :

*Whereas*, It has pleased Heaven to strike with death another of the greatest of our countrymen, we deem it not inappropriate to unite in the grief of our common country, by an expression of our sense of this event; therefore

*Resolved*, That in him we believe our country to have lost its profoundest statesman; her constitution its ablest defender; her law its most intelligent advocate, and education one of its most valuable and illustrative ornaments.



*Resolved*, That while we acknowledge his greatness to be inimitable, we recognize in its formation elements worthy of most zealous emulation, an unbending will, untiring application, and a generous enthusiasm for noble principles which age could not chill.

*Resolved*, That the honors unto the memory of the illustrious dead are to be estimated by the standard of his favorite author, CICERO—"Neque enim ulla res est, in qua proprius ad decorum numen virtus accedat humana, quam civitates aut condere novat *aut conservare jam conditas*"; and that we cannot more fittingly render these honors than by imitating the principles he defended.

GEORGE W. DEAN,  
MARVIN R. VINCENT,  
LEWIS L. DELAFIELD,  
CHARLES N. CLARK,  
*Committee.*

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## NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Board of Officers of the New England Society of the city of New York, the following resolutions were introduced by CHARLES A. PEABODY, seconded by SIMEON DRAPER, and adopted.

*Resolved*, That the New England Society of New York, have heard with profound grief of the death of DANIEL WEBSTER, and offer their sympathy to their brethren of New England in this their great calamity.

*Resolved*, That it is not the least of the claims of New England to the respect and honor which we bear to her, that she is the birth-place and the home of DANIEL WEBSTER—that in her schools he was educated—that in her

# OBSEQUIES OF

service his great abilities were disciplined and developed —that of her principles and of her institutions, he was at once the glory and the defence.

*Resolved*, That while in common with all his countrymen, we admire his great intellect, his vast acquirements, his wise statesmanship, and his wonderful eloquence, and honor his noble labors and high achievements for the public good, we desire also to commemorate the warmth of his heart, the generosity of his nature, the moral elevation of his character, and the perpetual sacrifices of his long life to friendship, to patriotism, to his love of his fellow-men.

*Resolved*, That in the moral grandeur of his death, we rejoice to find the appropriate and glorious termination of a long life of duty, and of dignity, devoted to high objects, and affecting great results, and that ever hereafter the heart of every true son of New England will cherish, with pious affection, the birth-place and the grave of DANIEL WEBSTER.

*Resolved*, That a deputation from this Society will attend his funeral, and that all the members wear the usual badge of mourning.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be published in the papers of the city, and a copy be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

DELEGATION FROM THE BOARD OF OFFICERS.

M. H. GRINNELL,

W. CURTIS NOYES,

C. A. PEABODY,

GEO. WARREN,

C. A. STETSON,

L. B. WYMAN,

PAUL BABCOCK.

FROM THE SOCIETY.

JOHN THOMAS,

THOMAS DUNHAM,

WM. M. EVARTS,

H. F. TALLMADGE.

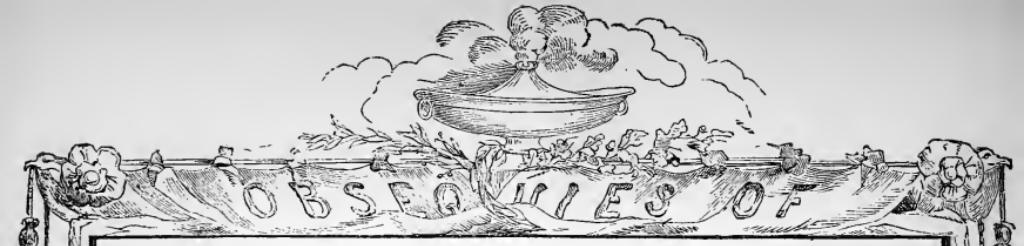
M. H. GRINNELL, *President.*

EPHRAIM KINGSBURY, *Secretary.*

## THE WHIG GENERAL COMMITTEES.

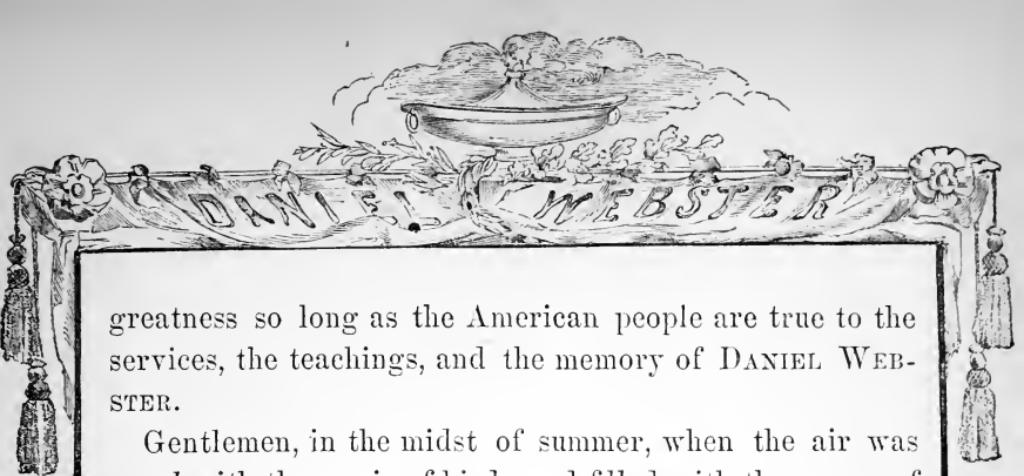
The two Whig General Committees, in Joint Committee, met at the Broadway House, when GEORGE J. CORNELL, the Chairman of the Senior General Committee, announced that the object of the meeting was to take suitable action upon the intelligence of the death of DANIEL WEBSTER ; whereupon, ERASTUS BROOKS, Chairman of the Committee of Democratic Whig Young Men, addressed the Committee, in substance, as follows :

The appointed time of death has come to another of the distinguished sons of America. DANIEL WEBSTER, our countryman, illustrious at home, and renowned abroad, is dead. He was struck down, in the service of his country, at the head of the Department of State, at the age of three-score and ten years, nine months and a few days. But yesterday, his name was enrolled on the scroll of history, as the greatest of living statesmen. To-day, in the sleep of death, he rests with his fathers, beneath the soil of his own New England home. New Hampshire gave him birth and education ; Massachusetts bestowed upon him multiplied offices and honors ; but neither New Hampshire nor Massachusetts, the North nor the East, can lay exclusive claim to the name and fame of DANIEL WEBSTER. He was an American altogether, loving his New England home as a child loves its mother, but yet loving his country, and his whole country, more than the honored place of birth, the home of his adoption, or the chosen people whom he so long and faithfully served. He was known throughout the United States as " the Defender of the Constitution."



OBSEQUIES OF

Born before the peace of 1793, he grew up from infancy to old age with the nation. In its theory and in its practice, in its letter and in its spirit, in all that appertained to popular rights, State sovereignty and federal power, he knew the government thoroughly and altogether. The great and good men who sat in the convention which framed the Constitution, were his models of study. HAMILTON, of our own New York, and MADISON, of Virginia, were the especial objects of his admiration, for their profound thoughts and their earnest devotion to all that related to the welfare of the people and the strength and endurance of the government. But the Constitution was the subject of his constant reflection for more than forty years, and the idol and delight of his heart, from the days he aspired to the public service. Though profoundly learned in the law, deeply read in scriptures, well versed in the science of all branches of political economy, imbued with all the charms of a poetic fancy and a splendid imagination, genial in domestic life, and brilliant and instructive in social intercourse, it was as the great commentator of the American Constitution he was best known and most honored. He made that his morning study and his evening meditation, and upon it he has reared a monument as enduring as time, and of imperishable glory. The statesman is dead; but "I STILL LIVE," were the last words of DANIEL WEBSTER, on that Sabbath day when, ere the morning sun appeared, his spirit winged its way from the shores of the resounding sea of his own beloved home, to the realms of that blessed and peaceful Paradise, to which, leaning in humble faith upon the "rod" and "staff" of the Almighty, he aspired. So, too, live the Constitution and the Republic, each, let us hope, to grow in strength and



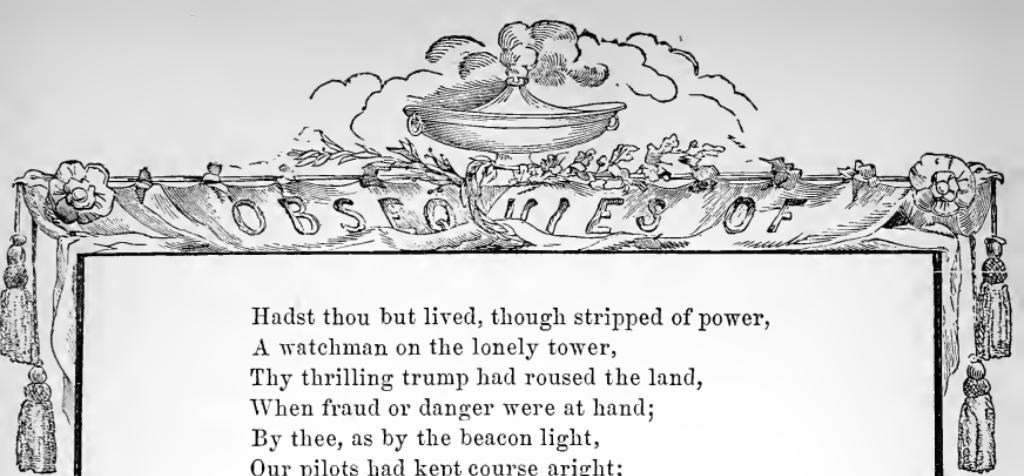
## DANIEL WEBSTER

greatness so long as the American people are true to the services, the teachings, and the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER.

Gentlemen, in the midst of summer, when the air was vocal with the music of birds, and filled with the aroma of roses—when the earth was beautiful with flowers, and green with verdure—we lost our long-loved and honored chieftain, HENRY CLAY. He sleeps in the bosom of his honored Kentucky. His grave is watched by the surviving partner of his long and eventful life, and by the children of his love. For his death, the signs of grief have not yet all faded away from our vision, nor have the sounds of woe all died upon our ears. The voice of sorrow still lingers upon the land, like the plaintive wail of death, for the loss of the gifted and the good, and, in the midst of our national calamity, the messenger of Death lays his icy hand upon yet another of our oldest and best public servants. This one has failed in the midst of autumn, in the time of “the sere and yellow leaf,” and in the season of natural decay.

How calm his exit!  
Night-dews fall not more gently to the ground,  
Nor weary, worn-out winds expire so soft.  
By unperceived degrees he wore away,  
*Yet, like the sun, seemed larger at his setting.*

Let us thank GOD that the body alone is perishable, and that the good men do live after them. Had Providence so ordained its dispensation, that his life had been prolonged, we should feel, in this hour of national difficulty, that such a pilot at the helm would have scattered all the storms which threaten to disturb the peace of the Republic. Addressing his departed spirit, may I not say, as the bard of Scotland sung to England’s great hero :



Hadst thou but lived, though stripped of power,  
A watchman on the lonely tower,  
Thy thrilling trump had roused the land,  
When fraud or danger were at hand;  
By thee, as by the beacon light,  
Our pilots had kept course aright;  
As some proud column, though alone,  
Thy strength had propp'd the tottering throne.  
Now is the stately column broke,  
The beacon light is quenched in smoke,  
The trumpet's silver sound is still,  
The warder silent on the hill.

Like PITT and FOX, our great rival statesmen, CLAY, WEBSTER and CALHOUN, now sleep together; and in the graves of Kentucky, Massachusetts and South Carolina, may all their differences be buried forever. Of each and all of them, their countrymen all now proclaim :

With more than mortal power endow'd,  
How high they soar'd above the crowd,  
Their's was no common party race,  
Jostling by dark intrigue for place;  
Like fabled gods their mighty war  
Shook realms and nations in its jar;  
Beneath each banner proud to stand,  
Look'd up the noblest of the land, \* \* \*  
Genius, and taste, and talent gone,  
Forever tomb'd beneath the stone,  
Where, taming thought to human pride,  
The mighty Chiefs sleep side by side, \* \* \*  
The solemn echoes seem to cry,—  
“Here let their discord with them die;  
Speak not for these a separate doom,  
Whom fate made brothers in the tomb,  
But search the land of living men,  
Where shalt thou find the like again?”

After the address, Mr. BROOKS offered the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the two Whig General Committees of the



## DANIEL WEBSTER

City of New York have received the intelligence of the death of DANIEL WEBSTER with sincere sorrow. We remember him as that great Northern Light of our country, whose intelligent rays have shed an undimmed lustre upon the history of the United States, during forty years of labor in the public service. We remember him as the Defender of the Constitution, when the great Charter of our Liberties has been assailed. We remember him as the Champion of the North, in the battle of the intellectual giants of the land, and as the assertor of Popular Liberty, the supporter of National Authority, and the friend of true State Sovereignty ; but especially do we respect and cherish his memory as the defender of the States of our " American Union, one and inseparable, now and forever," and as the successful advocate of " One Country, one Constitution, and one Destiny," for the whole American people."

*Resolved*, That, as members of the Whig party of New York, we embrace this public opportunity to give our testimony to the many and faithful services of DANIEL WEBSTER to the Whigs of the Union—services which have enlarged our commerce, extended our manufactures, improved our agriculture, increased our capital, and benefited our labor. We know and appreciate the advantages of works like these ; and while they prompt us to remember and admire Mr. WEBSTER, as one of the great leaders and champions of the Whig party, they at the same time make us deeply feel the irreparable loss which the Whig party and the country have sustained in the death of one of its greatest statesmen and truest patriots.

*Resolved*, That these Committees deeply sympathize with Massachusetts in the death of her most honored and

**OBSEQUIES OF**

lamented son, and that, as citizens of New York, we claim the privilege of sharing in the public grief for the death of one who, though born in the North, possessed a heart and mind as boundless as the whole Republic.

*Resolved*, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and of regard to the surviving family, a Committee of Thirteen be appointed to attend the funeral of the deceased, at Marshfield, on Friday next, and that the members of the two General Committees go into mourning, by wearing crape upon the left arm for the space of thirty days.

HON. J. B. VARNUM, of the Fifteenth Ward, seconded the resolutions, and made some appropriate remarks, after which the two Committees adjourned. The following Committees were appointed to attend the funeral ceremonies at Marshfield :

COMMITTEE IN BEHALF OF THE WHIG GENERAL COMMITTEE.

LINUS W. STEVENS,	WM. H. ARTHUR,
JAMES KENNEDY, M. D.,	ROBERT T. HAWS,
WILLIS PATTEN,	GEO. H. FRANKLIN,
PHILIP J. MONROE.	

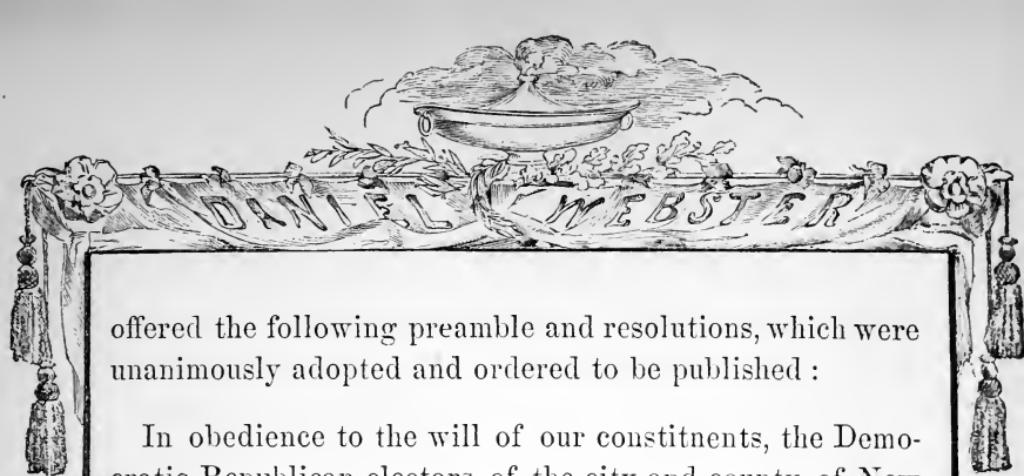
COMMITTEE IN BEHALF OF THE YOUNG MEN'S GENERAL COMMITTEE.

NATHAN C. ELY,	ROBERT G. CAMPBELL,
DANIEL BOWLEY,	CHAS. M. SIMONSON,
J. H. STERLE,	J. W. SCHENCK.

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DEMOCRATIC GENERAL COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Democratic Republican General Committee of the city of New York, held at Tammany Hall, on Monday, October 25, 1852, D. E. SICKLES, Esq.,



## DANIEL WEBSTER

offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted and ordered to be published :

In obedience to the will of our constituents, the Democratic Republican electors of the city and county of New York, friendly to the maintenance of harmony between the several states of this Union, and to the platform of principles adopted by the National Convention, held at Baltimore, on the first day of June, 1852, as the most efficient means of preserving the same, we, the Democratic Republican General Committee of the city of New York, have unanimously

*Resolved*, That esteeming civil liberty as the first of earthly blessings, and the Constitution of these United States as the ark of its safety for our own countrymen, and of its promise to the nations yet lingering in political bondage, we receive, with emotions of profoundest sorrow, the melancholy announcement that DANIEL WEBSTER, who was but yesterday the most eminent citizen of this republic, and of that Constitution the most illustrious defender, has ceased to live.

*Resolved*, That as in life, when he stood forth a champion of the Constitution and a savior of the Union, we compromised all differences upon minor points of opinion, and yielded to DANIEL WEBSTER all that political organization would permit—admiration for his majestic intellect; applause for the brilliant display of his genius; gratitude, deep and sincere for his patriotic services; so, in this sad and solemn hour, when the separation of his mighty spirit from earth has obliterated forever all party lines from between us, we record the heart-felt expression of our mournful regret for his loss, and pray our brethren in affliction



—the friends of freedom throughout the world—to receive and enshrine it with their own.

*Resolved*, That a Committee, to consist of one member from each ward, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to co-operate with, and assist in such public demonstration as may be determined upon by our citizens, or the municipal authorities, in honor of the illustrious deceased.

Whereupon, the following persons were appointed such Committee:

DANIEL E. SICKLES,  
JAMES B. HETHERINGTON,  
FREDERICK L. VULTEE,  
WILLIAM D. KENNEDY,  
DENNIS GARRISON,  
GILBERT C. DEAN,  
WILLIAM N. McINTIRE,  
ANTHONY S. WOOD,  
DENNIS McCARTHY,

RICHARD T. MULLIGAN,  
JOHN D. DIXON,  
RICHARD B. CONNOLLY,  
CHARLES FRANCIS,  
WILLIAM L. WILEY,  
JOHN M. McDONALD,  
WILLIAM C. SEAMAN,  
LORENZO B. SHEPHERD,  
THEODORE MARTINE.

AUGUSTUS SCHELL, *Chairman.*

JONAS B. PHILLIPS,  
DR. JOSEPH HILTON,

*Secretaries.*

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### CONSUL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The British Consul issued the following circular, addressed to British shipmasters:

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSULATE,  
NEW YORK, Oct. 27, 1852.

Her Majesty's Consul respectfully requests all com-



manders of British ships in the port of New York, to wear their flags at half mast, on Friday, the 29th instant, the mournful day of the obsequies of the illustrious statesman, DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State of the United States.

ANTHONY BARCLAY.

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### WEBSTER GENERAL COMMITTEE

OF NEW YORK.

COMMITTEE ROOMS,  
NEW YORK, Oct. 25.

At a meeting of the Webster General Committee of New York, held at their rooms in this city, at the Stuyvesant Institute, on Monday evening, the 25th instant, the following resolves were unanimously adopted:

The death of DANIEL WEBSTER is to us an occasion of speechless sorrow, and the tribute due to his memory to be rendered rather by the veiling than the expression of emotions. Our tears are mingled with those of a nation who loved him more than they knew, and leaned upon his true, unconquished arm, with a trust of which they were unconscious till its removal. The national loss is felt to be one which Omniscience alone can measure. When perilous dissensions arise within, or rumors of war disquiet us from without, we shall hereafter feel that WEBSTER is gone, upon whom we were wont to repose the whole burden of patriotic anxiety, as upon a GOD—one seven times tried, and never found wanting.

## OBSE<sup>R</sup>VIES OF

In one sense, the stupendous calamity falls alike upon every inhabitant of the Republic, which has owed its strength and greatness so largely to him, and so often been saved by him from threatened destruction. In a sense, it falls upon the family of man, extinguishing a light that cheered the anxious watchers for a dawn of real liberty, in distant nations, under the whole heaven. But to those who knew and loved him, and rejoiced in his glory—who had been accustomed through life to look to his lips for political wisdom, and to rely on his unfathomed resources for assurance in every public emergency—who had cherished his magnanimous character as their ideal of excellence, and stood by him as the foremost of mankind, regardless of party, interest or obloquy, to the last—to these, to us, the loss of DANIEL WEBSTER is a personal bereavement, similar to no other, and attended by considerations of mournful regret, multiplied and peculiar.

But it becomes the mourners of our illustrious friend to contemplate his death in the light with which his own sublime example has invested it, and to thank GOD, who made him in His own image, that his transcendent qualities were preserved to crown his life with a dying so worthy of it—so satisfactory to the dearest wishes of the friend, the patriot, and the Christian—so ample in assurance of a better resurrection. Nor can those who loved him forget to render thanks that it was granted him, through his own vast sacrifice and labor, to realize his own memorable prayer, and with his last feeble and lingering glance, behold the gorgeous ensign of the Republic still full high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their original lustre—not one stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured.



## DANIEL WEBSTER

It becomes us with deep humiliation to implore, and in the strength of truth to hope, that the counsels and character of the great departed may now be effectually pondered by his people. That delusion and corruption may receive a more fatal overthrow from his death-bed than heretofore from all the fields of his fame ; and that, although we may not hope to see another WEBSTER, it may please the Creator of men to give us public servants worthy to walk in his footsteps, with public virtue sufficient to discern and reward their merits.

We tender to the mourning survivors of DANIEL WEBSTER's family, the assurance of sympathies which we feel but too well, and of personal regard with which we cannot choose but cherish all who remain to us from him. May their grief be solaced by the sad condolence of a mourning nation, and raised from undue depression by the fellowship of his greatness who was their head. May their lives on earth be cheered by the abiding sympathy and regard of their countrymen, for his sake, and their posterity worthily imitate his virtues and inherit his fame.

Upon the adoption of the above, it was further ordered that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the illustrious deceased. It was also resolved, that the members of the Committee, with its sub-Committees, agents and friends, be recommended to adopt the usual badge of mourning on the left arm, for thirty days.

CHARLES L. VOSE, *Chairman.*

GEO. A. HOOD, *Secretary.*

## PROCEEDINGS IN LAW COURTS.

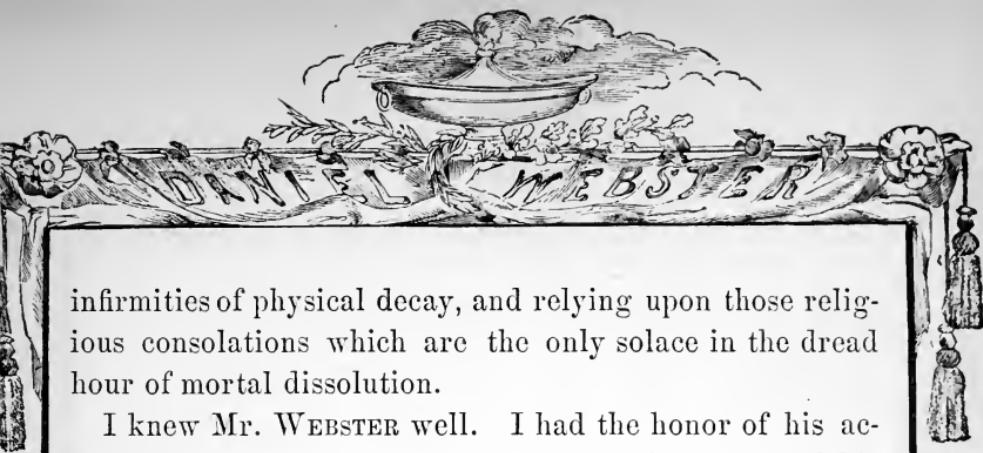
### UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

Mr. J. P. HALL, United States District Attorney, rose and delivered the following eulogium on the lamentable news of the death of Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR—Since the last adjournment of this court, the intelligence, sad, but not unexpected, has reached us that DANIEL WEBSTER is no more. He died yesterday morning in the full possession of all his mental powers, exhibiting in his death, as he had always exhibited in life, the entire superiority of his mind over all corporeal attributes. When we consider his greatness as a man, his public services, his glowing patriotism, his political distinction, his official station, his matchless eloquence, and as lawyers, his professional eminence, which placed him without dispute, and beyond doubt, at the very head of the Ameriean bar, it seems fit that the occasion of his death should not be suffered, by this tribunal, to pass by without some special notice of the event, and some evidence to endure upon its records, of the high considerations with which he was here regarded.

I rise not sir, to pronounce a eulogium upon this great man. “The world knows that by heart,” and a nation’s tears are at this moment poured out upon the bier, where he lies in the solemnity, the repose, and majesty of his death.

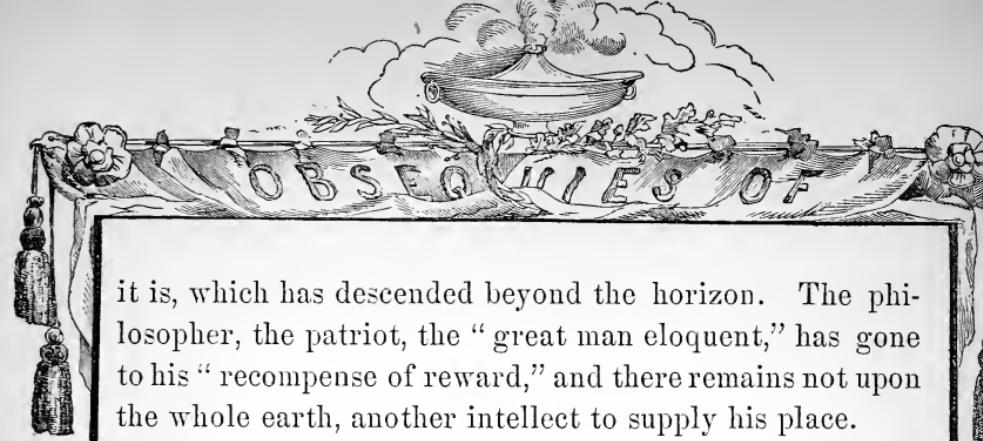
He died, sir, as we all could have wished him to die, when the inevitable hour should come—his profound intellect clear, serene and undoubted ; triumphing over all the



infirmities of physical decay, and relying upon those religious consolations which are the only solace in the dread hour of mortal dissolution.

I knew Mr. WEBSTER well. I had the honor of his acquaintance, and hope it is not too much to say, of his friendship, for more than a quarter of a century. It was his counsel and advice which led me to this great city, where I met with professional encouragement far beyond my deserts. I have seen him under every variety of circumstances—in the secluded hours of consultation, where his client's interests seemed to absorb all his remarkable power of attention—I have seen him in the midst of his family circles, dispensing and enjoying a genial hospitality; I have partaken of his innocent and manly amusements; I have walked with him alone at twilight upon the shore of the "far resounding sea;" I have seen him in the forum, and in the Senate Chamber—his gigantic intellect towering above all his compeers—and under no circumstance, nor on any occasion, did I know him to forget his own dignity, or cease to impress, if not overwhelm, with the sense of his greatness. From his lips I never heard an irreverent, a profane, or an unseemly expression; while his playful wit, his deep philosophy, his varied acquirements, and unrivaled powers of conversation, are among the richest treasures of my recollection.

He has gone down to the grave full of years, and full of honors. His voice will no longer be heard in the court room, or in the halls of legislative debate; but his example still remains, and his fame, undying and wide-spread as the world, will be cherished among the chief treasures of his country. His sun is set, but it leaves behind that long and luminous track, which shows what a glorious orb



## OBSEQUIES OF

it is, which has descended beyond the horizon. The philosopher, the patriot, the "great man eloquent," has gone to his "recompense of reward," and there remains not upon the whole earth, another intellect to supply his place.

I move you, sir, in consideration of our professional loss, and the national bereavement, that this court do now adjourn, and that the cause of its adjournment be entered upon its records, to remain there in perpetual remembrance of the sad event.

The Hon. Judge BETTS said :—

The Court cannot fail to receive the announcement of this solemn event without feeling a degree of sensibility equal to that of any body in this community. I have personally long known Mr. WEBSTER ; I have enjoyed many opportunities of witnessing his great talents on a variety of occasions, and in various situations. It is not the practice of this court to speak at length, upon occasions of this description, with respect to our own opinions of individuals who are the subject of public notice, and I shall receive the motion on the part of the District Attorney, and am at the same time most solicitous to express my sympathy with the public at large upon this occasion. It is befitting and proper that a testimony of earnest respect should be paid to the name and character of the individual named, and the Circuit Court will stand adjourned until eleven o'clock to-morrow. As the District Attorney has requested, the occasion of the adjournment will be put upon the records ; and any gentleman present who has any resolution prepared appropriate to the occasion, expressing the sentiments of the bar with reference to the talented deceased, it shall be inserted upon the records.



Mr. STAPLES rose to second the adoption of the resolutions and said :—

It is not the time nor the occasion for an expression of, nor to pronounce a eulogy upon the character of DANIEL WEBSTER ; and if it were, I am not the man to do it. A great man has fallen among us. “A great name has fallen in Israel”—in this Republic. Great in his intellectual and in his moral powers ; gifted by nature beyond most men. And yet this is only part of the character which he finally reared. He added great industry. And let it be remembered by all, that the gifts of nature are of little use, except followed by industry. The great difference between men is caused by industry and direction of efforts.

I knew Mr. WEBSTER early in life. At the commencement of war with England, I met him, and the course of events then led me to a more intimate knowledge of his character than I could otherwise have had. I have ever been his warmly attached friend, but not his blind friend. I have often met him in consultation, and never without being enlightened by contact with his mind. The time will soon come when his character shall be given to the world ; and let him who undertakes that task, study profoundly, not only the character of Mr. WEBSTER, but the events of the country with which his life is so intimately connected—and so his life will be a lasting benefit to the country.

The Court then adjourned.

#### SUPREME COURT.

Mr. BRADLEY rose, and addressed the Court as follows :

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT :—A melancholy event, which, at the adjournment on Friday, was too probable,



# OBSEQUIES OF

has now occurred. A great man, one of the foremost of American statesmen, and the foremost of modern orators, has died—but died, as all men wish to die, at his own home, surrounded by his family and friends, in the maturity of years, his faculties unimpaired, and their lustre untarnished.

This is not the time, or place, for fitting eulogy. That duty belongs to eloquent lips and another occasion. Still, a few words may not be inappropriate here.

Although educated to the law, still municipal law was not the field of his peculiar fame. At his entrance upon active life, great questions were agitating the country, which fastened forever his attention upon public affairs. Our then little navy—next the embargo—then the second war with Great Britain, and, after its close, questions of finance, of currency, and of commerce—foreign as well as internal—mingled the pursuits of the lawyer with those of the statesman—thus the one giving keenness to his argument, the other, enlargement to his view. The noble instrument, to which topics like these more or less referred, he ever regarded with reverence, as the greatest of human achievements in government, as the only bond of our Union, and the only hope of our freedom. He explored all its recesses, analyzed all its provisions, and imbued himself, through and through, with its spirit ; and in all debates connected with it, his feelings and affections kept company with his judgment and understanding. Though, in other departments of affairs, equal to any, *here* he achieved a fame all his own ; *here* he won his brightest renown, rendered the country his most valuable services, and united, indissolubly, his own with the other great American names.



It is not forgotten, nor is American history likely ever to forget, how closely, twenty or twenty-two years ago, the country approached the precipice of disunion, and how near it came to tumbling (if I may use his words again) *into the dark abyss below!* The tariff laws of that day brought to the manufacturing States great relief, but to the unmanufacturing, great burdens. I know not how much or how little of exaggeration there may have been in the statements, then common, that, under their influence Charleston had come to own but a single mast, that her wharves were all deserted, and the grass springing up in her most frequented streets. But it is clear that the disaffection was general and deep. The value of the Union began to be weighed, and plans of secession to be formed. And while, with these views, the entire South felt a sympathy more or less feverish, South Carolina was united in them, almost as one man. And at the time to which I refer, the noblest of her sons presided, and another son, hardly less noble, represented her in the Senate. *An individual, born farther north, a native of one New England State, and adopted by another, happened to be there also.*

In some rambling debate on the public lands, the Southern Senator took occasion, on full deliberation, and in an elaborate argument, to introduce the topic of secession, in all its fair or foul proportions, on that floor. One—but no second—night, that argument had repose. On the morrow it was met, examined, answered. And the fame, and the burning words of that answer, have gone forth to all lands where the English tongue is spoken. I know not—for who can tell?—with what emotions he who presided there, looked down on that wild collision, where all the fierce momentum came from one direction, and all the



## OBSESSIONS OF

fragments flew off in the other. But he resigned—descended from his lofty station, and, at the bidding of his native State, took his place on that floor, to advocate her cause, to vindicate her fame, and to repel, if he could, her foes. And in the abilities, the public services, the stainless life, the entire devotion of mind and body to the cause, and in the subtle, yet rapid and fiery eloquence of that great man, all felt that the senator from Massachusetts, now, had a foeman, more worthy of his steel.

Meanwhile, events elsewhere were taking a fearful turn. The Nullifying Convention had been summoned, and the ordinance for secession passed. The blood of SUMPTER and MARION, and of the elder HAYNE, was up, and beating high and hot, in the veins of their misguided descendants. And the muster and the drill were seen, and the drum and fife were heard, in the cities and towns, and along the vallies, and over all the hills of South Carolina. The infection was spreading southward into Georgia, and northward into the other Carolina ; and even the high loyalty of the Old Dominion herself began to falter.

Still, a stern old man, then at the head of national affairs, all whose words had meaning, and whose convictions were actions, had said : “The Union—it must and SHALL BE preserved!” And into the Senate, a bill had found its way, enabling that same old man, with army and navy, to preserve it. While Senators, of less renown, were conducting the high debate which followed, *who*, that then felt, can ever forget the suspense, the expectation, with which the hour was everywhere awaited, when the great chiefs themselves should meet in the conflict? They met—and a momentary relief came, when it was found that the bill had become a law ; and that an attack upon

it, with an eloquence as keen and as bright as the scimitar of SALADIN, was repelled by another eloquence, as massive as the battle-axe wielded by RICHARD of the Lion Heart.

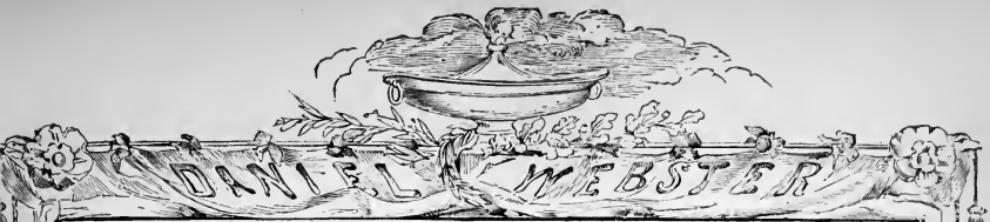
Still, the relief was only momentary. Passions, like those then raging, though they might at first have been prevented, were not now to be stilled by *words*—at least not by such words as theirs. The animosity was too deep, and the alienation was too wide. And men, everywhere, looked, with trepidation and alarm, for the day when they should feel the foundations of the State quake and heave beneath their feet.

Then another person appeared upon the scene. *He*, too, had seen public service; *he*, too, had acquired large renown; *he*, too, had eloquence high as theirs—yet all unlike. While he appealed to pure reason, his voice could yet stir the blood, like a trumpet, or, when needful, soothe its violence, like a lute. Forth, then, from his retirement, he—the Great Pacifier—came. And all this mad preparation for strife, and blood, and disunion, subsided and vanished, under the influence of tones of persuasion, with words of wisdom and peace. The law, which had caused the discord, was changed; and the great leaders, who, though goaded into hostility by sincere opinions urged too far, had, all the while, been patriots and brothers at heart, now once again joined hands, continuing to serve their common country, and remaining brothers and patriots still.

Since these events, many years have rolled away. And he of the Hermitage, and he of Fort Hill, and he of Ashland, and, at last, he of Marshfield, all are gone—gone in every thing but the record of their deeds, the remains of their words, and the gratitude of their country.

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One word more. It is now twenty-six or seven years since the surviving two of that glorious four, whom the pencil loves still to represent standing at the feet of JOHN HANCOCK, on the 4th July, 1776, unfolding, for signature, the Declaration of American Independence, died on the fiftieth anniversary of that day and event. Not many of us here are yet too young to remember the deep emotion excited throughout all the land by a coincidence so extraordinary. Everywhere, the great and eloquent, who survived, were called on to utter fitting eulogies for the eloquent and great who had just departed. Of course—of course, Faneuil Hall was not deserted or silent then. Of all his KITH AND KIN OF THE ANGLO-SAXON RACE, none was so fit as he—whose loss we now deplore—to speak to that theme in that ancient hall. Having sketched the lives of those great old men, their struggles, their virtues, their triumphs, and, finally, their glorious death, in words such as none but he could use, he caught up the last words of the anthem, which had died away on the lips of the choir as he began, and exclaimed, (as, perhaps, *we* now might exclaim,) THEIR BODIES ARE BURIED IN PEACE, BUT THEIR NAMES LIVETH EVERMORE! And the great oration swept along, drawing high augury “from the honors that were paid and the tears that were shed when the founders of the Republic died, that the Republic itself might be immortal,” and closed in words, how fitting then, and not inappropriate now—“Auspicious omens cheer us; great examples are before us. Our own firmament shines brightly on our path. WASHINGTON is in the clear upper sky. THESE OTHER STARS have now joined the American constellation; they circle round their centre; and the heavens beam with new light.”



In obedience, therefore, to the usage which prevails on like melancholy occasions, and to feelings which, though such usage were wanting, would begin one, I move that this court do now adjourn.

The Hon. Wm. KENT seconded the motion.

Justice EDWARDS said:

The Court concur readily in the propriety of the motion which has been made. Mr. WEBSTER has, for a long period, stood high in the front rank of our senators and statesmen; his reputation was not only great here, but it was also great in other lands. In his negotiations with foreign powers, at those times when our country was agitated by difficult and trying questions, he exhibited distinguished ability, and his efforts were eminently successful. In times of domestic agitation, he was always a firm friend and steadfast advocate of our Union. His public speeches and addresses—although many of them were delivered on political questions in which the nation was divided—have been universally admired for the beauty, simplicity and strength of their style, and for their compact and massive argument; and those splendid orations, which he uttered in commemoration of great national events, will be read and admired as long as the events themselves shall be regarded with interest. His friends and his countrymen have the consolation that he died at a ripe age, in the full possession of his intellect, and while engaged in the active discharge of his duties.

The Clerk will enter the order for the adjournment of this Court until to-morrow.



SUPERIOR COURT.

Before Hon. Judges DUER, CAMPBELL AND BOSWORTH.

On the opening of the Court,

DANIEL D. LORD, Esq., addressing the bench said :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR—Since the adjournment of the Court on Saturday last, news has been received of the death of the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, and as a mark of respect to his memory, I beg to move, on behalf of the Bar, that this Court adjourn.

They owe it to themselves; they owe it to his reputation as a lawyer; his reputation as a statesman, to the great talents which he has in every station exhibited, and it seems to me they owe it to the great achievements he has performed in behalf of our common country.

It seems improper at present, while the emotion is so strong, and the deep feeling of regret so fresh, to go into any details of the character of the illustrious deceased. Suffice it that the country never produced another mind so massive—so comprehensive—no other man's intellect seemed so fitted to expound American principles to American citizens. He would now only move that the following minute be entered on the records of the Court :

The death of DANIEL WEBSTER was suggested to the Court, as having occurred since its last adjournment, and thereupon it was moved, on behalf of the Bar,

That the Bench and the Bar receive with sentiments of the deepest regret, the information of this loss to the profession of the law, and their common country.

That they hold, in the highest respect, the learning, the eloquence, the acquirements, and the achievements of the

# DANIEL WEBSTER

illustrious deceased, and glory in them, for the reputation of their profession, and of their country.

That, as a mark of their respect, the Court do now adjourn.

JAMES GIRARD, Esq., seconded the motion. He thought that at present silence was more expressive than words.

His Honor Judge DUER said :

It is hardly necessary for me to say that I entirely concur in the expression of the bar, and that the Court consider the adoption of the minute but as a fitting tribute of respect to the memory of the illustrious statesman, the greatest lawyer, and most eloquent orator the bar ever produced. The Court is therefore adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Proclamation was accordingly made, and the Court adjourned.

## COMMON PLEAS.

Before Hon. DANIEL P. INGRAHAM and LEWIS B. WOODRUFF.

The Court having learned with deep regret the death of Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, Secretary of State of the United States, do order, as a mark of respect to the illustrious deceased, that this Court do now forthwith adjourn.

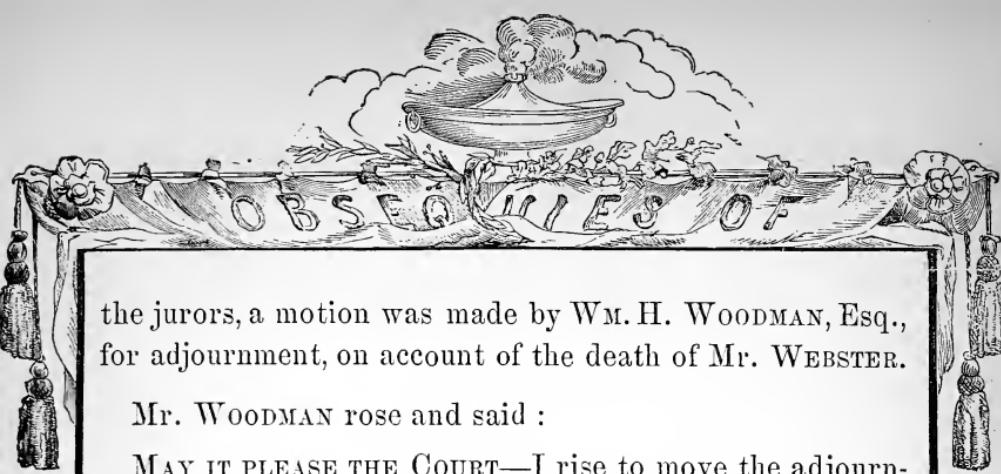
[Extract from the minutes.]

EDWIN F. COREY,  
*Deputy Clerk.*

## MARINE COURT.

Present—Judge LYNCH and Judge COWLES.

After the opening of the Court, and calling the names of

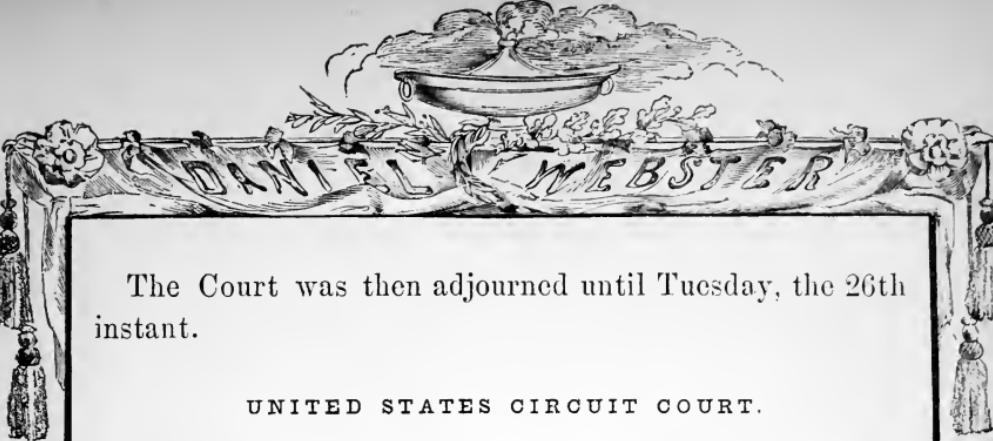


the jurors, a motion was made by Wm. H. WOODMAN, Esq., for adjournment, on account of the death of Mr. WEBSTER.

Mr. WOODMAN rose and said :

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT—I rise to move the adjournment of this Court, as a mark of respect for the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER. News has reached us of the death of this eminent statesman and profound lawyer. I am aware that nothing which may be said by me can elevate his character higher than it now stands in the hearts and minds of this assemblage, and of all his countrymen. It is fitting, however, that we should suspend, for a time, our customary avocations upon the decease of him who has so long, so faithfully, and so efficiently served his country. Within a few short months, three of our ablest and most experienced statesmen, representing collectively the diversified interests of the whole nation, have passed away. Let us therefore hope that their great and good deeds may live after them, and ever tend to cement more closely the union of the States, and kindle a new patriotism of the American people. And although the entire country is now filled with sadness at the loss of one of her best men, let us still be consoled by the reflection that the last moments of WEBSTER were characterized by the same noble simplicity and lofty wisdom which marked his whole life.

Judge LYNCH replied, that in accordance with the feelings of the Court, as well as its duty, an adjournment would be made. That a personal acquaintance with the illustrious deceased, as well as respect for the memory of one holding the high station of Secretary of State, at the time of his death, prompted the Court to adjourn, even at the risk of some inconvenience to those having business before it.



## DANIEL WEBSTER

The Court was then adjourned until Tuesday, the 26th instant.

### UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

At the opening of the Court, Justice NELSON presiding, Mr. SAMUEL STEVENS rose and said :

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT—Since the adjournment of this Court on Saturday evening, a member of our profession, who, as a jurist, had no superior in profound wisdom, deep and varied learning, and in clear, forcible and convincing eloquence, in this or any other country—who, as a statesman, justly occupied the highest position in the councils of this nation, and the largest space in the confidence and affections of the people of the United States, has departed this life.

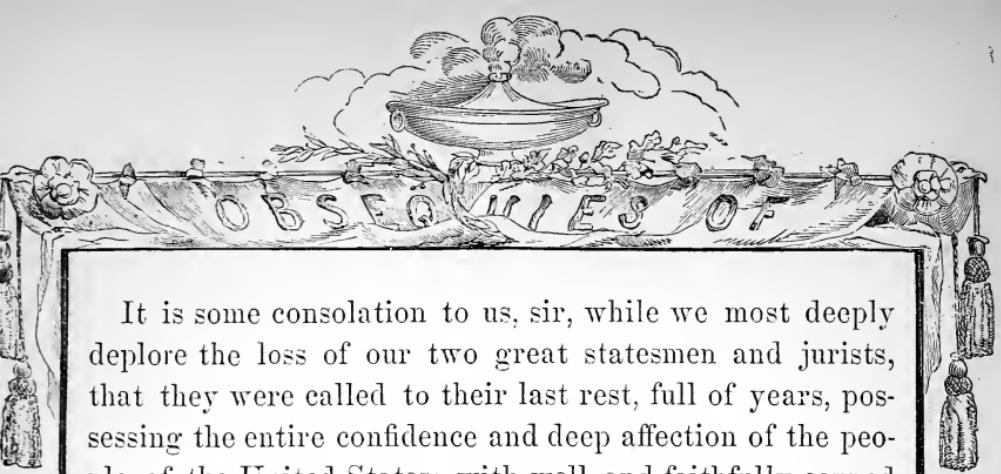
DANIEL WEBSTER died at Marshfield, a few minutes before three o'clock, yesterday morning.

The present year has been singularly fraught with melancholy events, both in this country and in England.

Scarcely three months have elapsed since the nation was called upon to deplore and lament the death of HENRY CLAY.

It is no injustice to others, sir, to say that those two great men, for the last forty years, have acted the most important parts in the councils of this nation; and that, to their patriotism and their wisdom, this country is deeply indebted for the stability of its government and institutions, and for the unexampled prosperity and happiness of its people.

England, too, during this year, has been called upon to mourn the loss of two of her most distinguished sons, Sir ROBERT PEEL and the DUKE OF WELLINGTON.



It is some consolation to us, sir, while we most deeply deplore the loss of our two great statesmen and jurists, that they were called to their last rest, full of years, possessing the entire confidence and deep affection of the people of the United States; with well and faithfully earned honors thickly clustering around them.

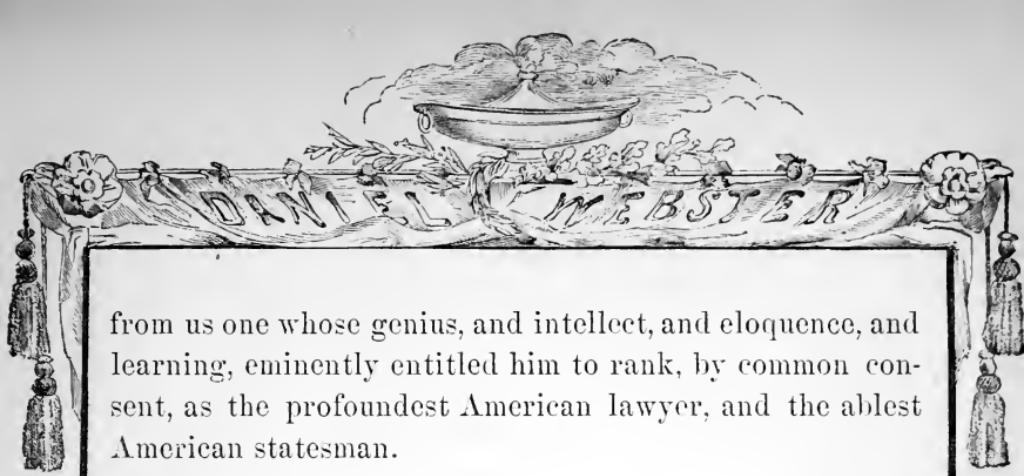
As an evidence of our heart-felt appreciation of the great loss which our profession and our country have sustained in the death of Mr. WEBSTER, and as a mark of our never dying respect for his worth and his memory, I move, sir, that this Court do now adjourn.

To which Mr. Justice NELSON responded as follows:

The Court readily acquiesce in the propriety of this motion. The long and eminent life of Mr. WEBSTER in the profession, and in the public councils of the nation, well entitle his memory to this mark of respect from his professional brethren and the Court. It is not too much to say that, in our profession, which he loved, he had no superior in this or any other country.

We shall direct the adjournment of the Court agreeable to the request of the Bar, and that the proceedings be entered upon the minutes.

Judge HALL said he was well aware that, on ordinary occasions of this character, it would be most appropriate for him to remain silent, and leave to the presiding judge the expression of the sentiments and sympathies of the Court. But having been so recently the personal associate and official colleague of Mr. WEBSTER, he could not refrain from declaring his concurrence in the sentiments already expressed, as well as his deep sympathy with those who felt most keenly the afflicting dispensation which had taken



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from us one whose genius, and intellect, and eloquence, and learning, eminently entitled him to rank, by common consent, as the profoundest American lawyer, and the ablest American statesman.

## SUPREME COURT—WESTERN CIRCUIT.

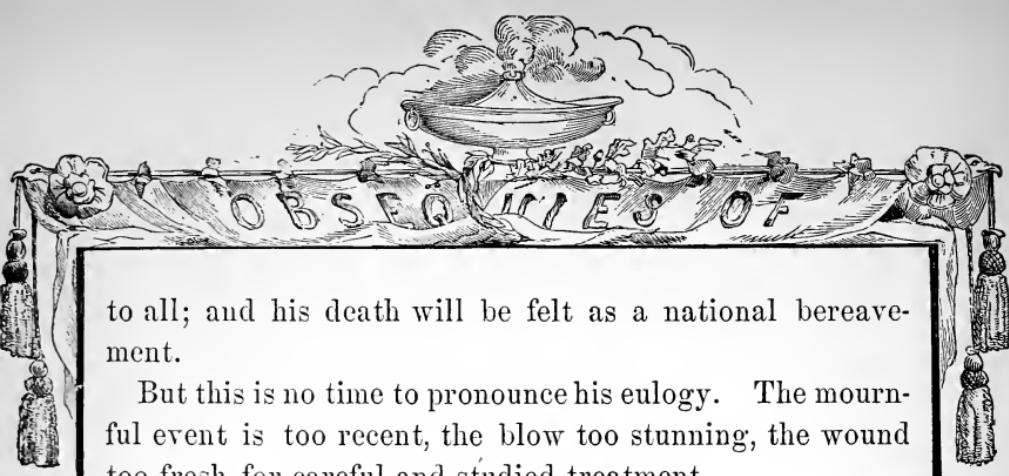
At the opening of the Court, his Honor Judge JOHNSON made the following remarks:

GENTLEMEN OF THE BAR, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY AND PETIT JURY: "DANIEL WEBSTER died at two minutes before three this morning," was the brief announcement yesterday. Though not unexpected, it was a startling announcement, full of solemn and mournful significance.

DANIEL WEBSTER is dead! The great defender and expounder of the Constitution; the statesman of world-wide fame; the profound lawyer; the matchless orator; the mightiest created intellect of his age, is now no more!

When that subtle and mysterious essence which is the life of our corporeal frame departs from the least distinguished among us, and leaves that wonderful machine, which it was wont to impel to such ceaseless activity, an inanimate clod, we pause and ponder upon the event, and give, at least, a passing consideration to the deep lesson it teaches. But when the greatest, the most distinguished, are stricken down—when the greater lights in our firmament go out suddenly, and darkness falls on our pathway, the event arrests our course. We pause in our pursuits; we turn from our avocations; we look about with unwonted apprehension, and give more earnest heed to the warning.

DANIEL WEBSTER has long been the common property of his country. His fame is a common inheritance, dear



to all; and his death will be felt as a national bereavement.

But this is no time to pronounce his eulogy. The mournful event is too recent, the blow too stunning, the wound too fresh, for careful and studied treatment.

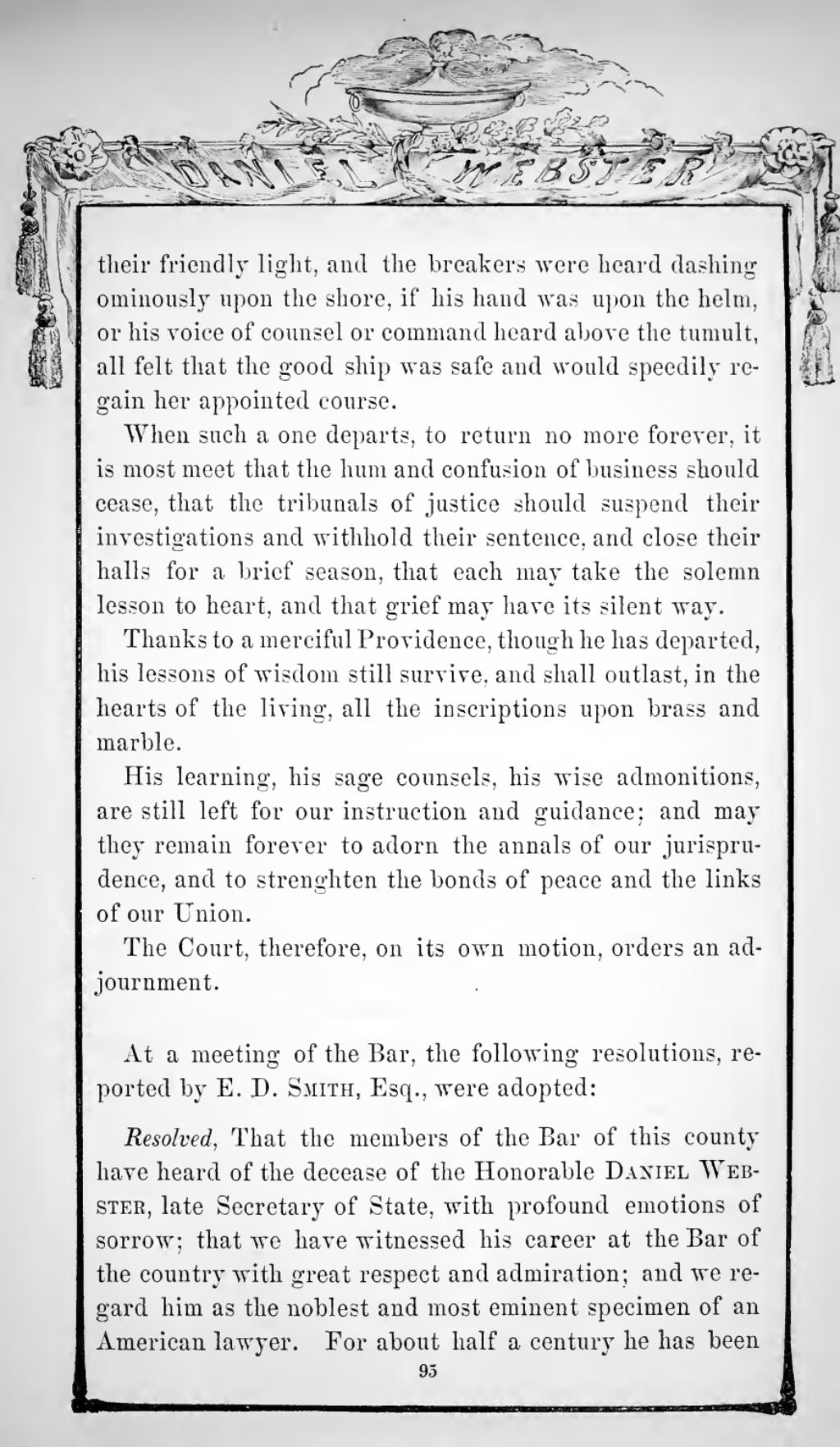
As a lawyer, he towered pre-eminent in his profession. He had apparently explored the height and depth, the length and breadth of each system of jurisprudence, and mastered its most recondite elements and principles. He could, with the utmost facility, seize the profound as well as the most subtle principles, and exhibit them with the plainness and distinctness of the most trite maxims.

His forensic efforts are destined to become not only models of style and arrangement, but mines stored with profound legal lore, as well for the lawyer of ripe experience as for the student, for all time.

Whether his fame shall be the more conspicuous as a lawyer or a statesman, and whether he shall have any rival as either, time alone can determine. But in the wonderful combination and versatility of the statesman, and the lawyer, and the orator, his fame has no rival to dread.

It may be that he would have been found wanting in the skill and genius to model and construct the ship of State, had he been called to that task; but there he was untried, and judgments may vary—but when she was once launched and under way, that his was pre-eminently the skill and genius to guide and direct her on her great voyage, safely and surely, none will doubt.

When the sea was calm and the gale prosperous, he was watchful and provident, and none questioned his ability or foresight. And when the tempest came, and the vessel was driven from her course, and the guiding stars refused



their friendly light, and the breakers were heard dashing ominously upon the shore, if his hand was upon the helm, or his voice of counsel or command heard above the tumult, all felt that the good ship was safe and would speedily regain her appointed course.

When such a one departs, to return no more forever, it is most meet that the hum and confusion of business should cease, that the tribunals of justice should suspend their investigations and withhold their sentence, and close their halls for a brief season, that each may take the solemn lesson to heart, and that grief may have its silent way.

Thanks to a merciful Providence, though he has departed, his lessons of wisdom still survive, and shall outlast, in the hearts of the living, all the inscriptions upon brass and marble.

His learning, his sage counsels, his wise admonitions, are still left for our instruction and guidance; and may they remain forever to adorn the annals of our jurisprudence, and to strengthen the bonds of peace and the links of our Union.

The Court, therefore, on its own motion, orders an adjournment.

At a meeting of the Bar, the following resolutions, reported by E. D. SMITH, Esq., were adopted:

*Resolved*, That the members of the Bar of this county have heard of the decease of the Honorable DANIEL WEBSTER, late Secretary of State, with profound emotions of sorrow; that we have witnessed his career at the Bar of the country with great respect and admiration; and we regard him as the noblest and most eminent specimen of an American lawyer. For about half a century he has been



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among the brightest ornaments of the legal profession, and has illustrated to the world, more than any other man of his generation, the intrinsic value of that profession to a free country, in supporting the principles of constitutional freedom, and the equality and sacredness of political and civil rights. Whatever difference we may entertain in regard to his political opinions, we all bow to the majesty of his genius, the commanding character of his intellectual greatness, and to the purity of his intentions. His death has created a vacancy among the intellects, the lawyers, the orators, and the statesmen of the world that no man can fill. Since the American Revolution, no man has arisen who has so much exalted and adorned the American character as DANIEL WEBSTER. No page of the history of the American Republic will be brighter than that which records his achievements in defence of the Constitution of his country, and in support of the Union, and the just authority of the general government.

As a statesman, he has filled a large space in the attention and respect of his countrymen and of other nations. No man has more impressed his sentiments on the American mind. The patriotism concentrated in his noble aphorisms—"Our country, our whole country, and nothing but our country," "Liberty and union now and forever, one and inseparable," and others, has contributed to bind the affections of the American people to their government and to the Union more, probably, than it has been the fortune of any of his contemporaries to accomplish. He has died at an auspicious time, when he had the universal respect of his countrymen more than at any other period in his life; and he has had his wish, that when his eyes should be turned for the last time to behold the sun in the heavens,

he might not see him shining on the broken and disbanded fragments of a once glorious Union.

*Resolved*, That we will concur with our fellow-citizens in such ceremonies as may be appropriate to mark the universal respect so deeply felt, and so justly due to the talents, patriotism and worth of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be presented to the Court, at its opening to-morrow, and that his Honor, the Circuit Judge, be requested to cause the same, together with a copy of his address, on adjourning the Court, to the Bar, to be entered in the minutes of the Court.

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## MEETING OF THE BAR.

A large and highly influential meeting of the members of the New York Bar, embracing men of all political feelings, assembled in the United States Circuit Court room, to express their regret at the loss the country and their profession have sustained by the death of DANIEL WEBSTER.

The Hon. SAMUEL JONES, ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was called on to preside.

Messrs. B. W. BONNEY and E. C. BENEDICT were requested to act as Secretaries.

Mr. STAPLES said :

I believe, [Mr. Chairman, that [some resolutions have been prepared by a Committee of the Bar, which I wish may be read at this time. I believe they are in the hands of Mr. WILLIAM EVARTS.

## OBITUARIES OF

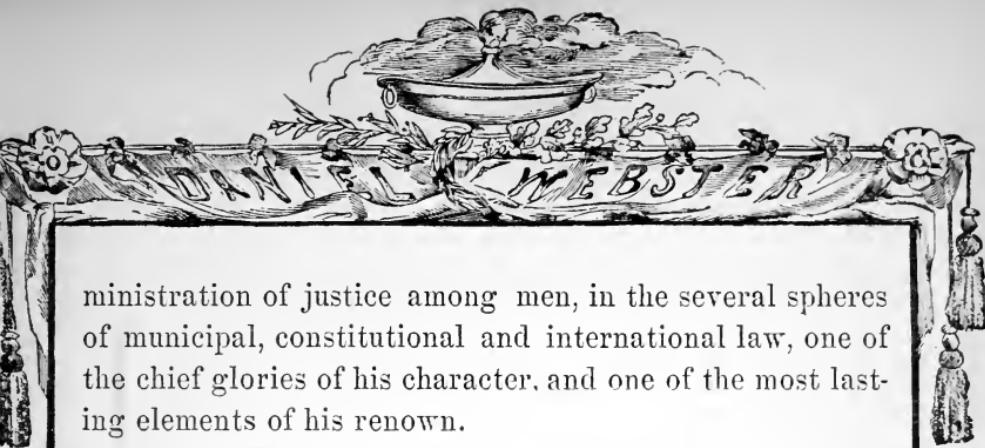
Mr. WM. EVARTS then read the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Bar of New York have heard with profoundest grief of the death of DANIEL WEBSTER, and respectfully offer their condolence to the family of the deceased upon this sad event.

*Resolved*, That in the large capacities and varied powers of his intellect—in the culture and discipline of these powers in the highest sphere of human action and influence—in the fortune of great opportunities and the success of great achievements—DANIEL WEBSTER stands first among the men of his day and generation, and his name and his fame will be a treasured possession to his country forever.

*Resolved*, That while the great abilities, thorough and extensive learning, powerful and splendid eloquence of Mr. WEBSTER, call forth our highest admiration, the vast public labors and eminent public services to which, for half a century, he has devoted those noble gifts and large acquirements, from a love of country so pure and enthusiastic, have imposed a great debt of gratitude upon his countrymen, which they and their posterity, to the latest generation, can never, by the fullest tribute of affection, respect and honor to his memory, too deeply acknowledge.

*Resolved*, That we feel a just pride in the knowledge that the foundations of Mr. WEBSTER's greatness were laid in the learning and discipline of the profession of the law; that the first triumphs of his fame were gained in its arena, and that, throughout a long life, he ever honored it and its votaries; and that we esteem his uniform support of the Constitution and the laws of the land, his habitual reverence to the judicial tribunals, and his perpetual efforts to sustain, extend, illuminate and defend the ad-



ministration of justice among men, in the several spheres of municipal, constitutional and international law, one of the chief glories of his character, and one of the most lasting elements of his renown.

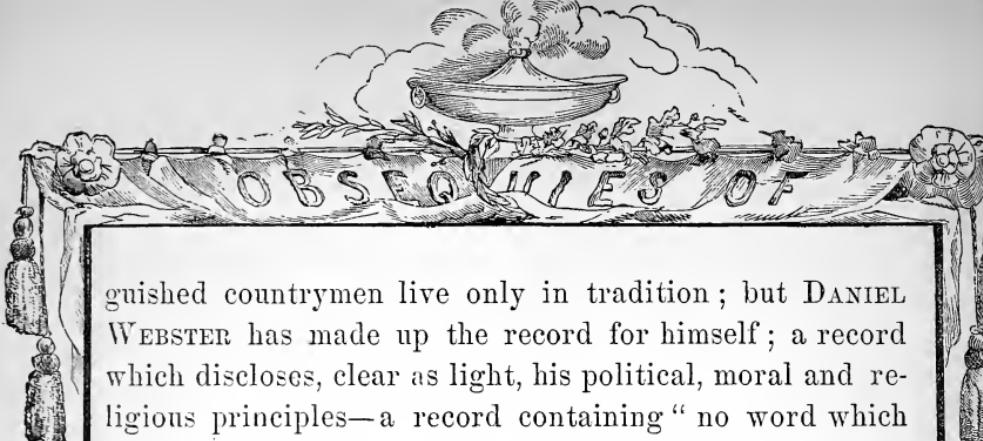
*Resolved*, That, to the glory of his life the manner of his death was a fit and majestic close, and leaves no ground of lamentation for his sake who has departed, but for his country only, and the cause of constitutional liberty, to which he is lost forever.

*Resolved*, That, in testimony of respect for his memory, such of our number as may be so deputed by the Chairman of this meeting, do attend his funeral, as representatives of our body, and that we all wear the usual badge of mourning.

Mr. HIRAM KETCHUM said :

The offices of this day belong less to grief and sorrow than congratulation and joy. It is true, that our illustrious countryman, DANIEL WEBSTER, is no longer numbered among the living; but it is a subject of congratulation that he lived beyond the ordinary period allotted to human life, and that he was permitted to die, as he had lived for thirty years, in the service of his country; and at his own home, in his own bed, surrounded by his domestic family and friends. The great luminary of the Bar, the Senate, and the Council Chamber is set forever, but it is a subject of rejoicing that it is set in almost supernatural splendor, obscured by no cloud; not a ray darkened.

I have often heard Mr. WEBSTER express a great dread, I may say horrible dread, of a failure of intellect. He did not live long enough to experience such failure. I rejoice that he lived long enough to collect and supervise, and publish to the world his own works. Many of our distin-



## OBSEQUIRIES OF

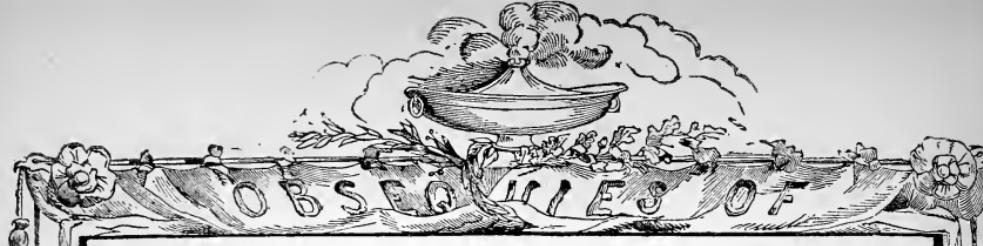
guished countrymen live only in tradition ; but DANIEL WEBSTER has made up the record for himself ; a record which discloses, clear as light, his political, moral and religious principles—a record containing “ no word which dying, he might wish to blot,” or any friend of his desire to efface. More than any living man, he has instructed the whole generation of American citizens in their political duties, and taught the young men of the country how to think clearly, reason fairly, and clothe thought in the most simple and beautiful English. He has reared his own monument. “ There it stands, and there it will stand forever!” The rock which was pressed by the feet of the Pilgrims, first landing on the shores of this Western Continent, is destined long to be remembered ; but not longer than the oration commemorating that event, delivered two hundred years after it occurred, by DANIEL WEBSTER.

The monument which indicates the spot where the first great battle of the American Revolution was fought, will stand as long as monumental granite can stand ; but long after it is obliterated and scattered, the oration delivered on laying its corner-stone, and the other oration pronounced nineteen years after, on its completion, will live to tell that such a monument was. The names of JOHN ADAMS and THOMAS JEFFERSON will be known to a distant futurity ; but I believe that among the last records which will tell of their names will be the eulogy, of which they were the theme, pronounced by DANIEL WEBSTER. We all hope, and some of us believe, that the Constitution and Union of our country will be perpetual ; but we know that the speeches and orations in defence and commendation of that Constitution and Union, delivered by DANIEL WEBSTER, will live as long as the English language is spoken



among men. I might refer to the capitol of the country, to every important institution, and every great name in our land, among the living and the dead, for there is not one of them that has not been embalmed in his eloquence.

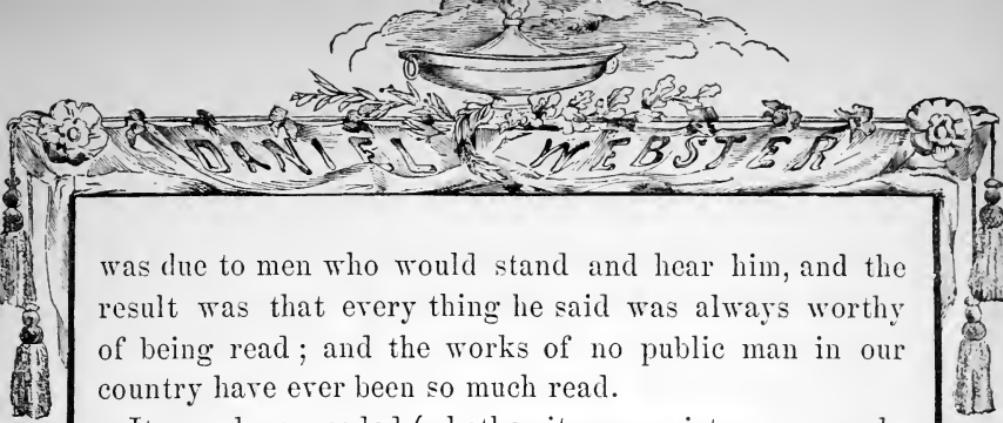
In the few remaining remarks which I have to make, allow me, sir, to speak of some of the personal characteristics of Mr. WEBSTER as they have fallen under my own observation. I have long been acquainted with him. From all I know, have seen and heard, I am here to-day to bear testimony that DANIEL WEBSTER, as a public man, possessed the highest integrity. He always seemed to me to act under the present conviction, that whatever he did would be known, not only to his contemporaries, but to posterity. He was "clear in office." He regarded political power as power in trust; and though always willing and desirous to oblige his friends, yet he would never, directly or indirectly, violate that trust. I have known him in private and domestic life. During the last twenty-five years I have received many letters from him; some of which I yet retain, and some have been destroyed at his request. I have had the pleasure of meeting him often in private circles, and at the festive board, where some of our sessions were not short; but neither in his letters nor his conversation, have I ever known him to express an impure thought, an immoral sentiment, or use profane language. Neither in writing nor in conversation have I ever known him to assail any man. No man, in my hearing, was ever slandered or spoken ill of by DANIEL WEBSTER. Never in my life have I known a man whose conversation was uniformly so unexceptionable in tone and edifying in character. No man ever had more tenderness of feeling than DANIEL WEBSTER. He had his enemies, as malignant



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as any man ; but there was not one of them who, if he came to him in distress, would not obtain all the relief in his power to bestow. To say that he had no weakness and failings would be to say that he was not human. Those failings have been published to the world, and his friends would have no reason to complain of that if they had not been exaggerated. It is due to truth and sound morality to say, in this place, that no public services, no eminent talent, can or should sanctify errors. It was one of Mr. WEBSTER's characteristics that he abhorred all affectation. That affectation, often seen in young men, of speaking in public upon the impulse of the moment, without previous thought and preparation, of all others he most despised. He never spoke without previous thought and laborious preparation. As was truly said by my venerable friend, who just sat down (Mr. STAPLES,) he was industrious to the end. When, on leaving college, he assumed the place of teacher in an academy, in an interior town of New England, the most intelligent predicted his future eminence. After his first speech in court, in his native state, a learned judge remarked, "I have just heard a speech from a young man who will hereafter become the first man in the country." The predictions that were made of DANIEL WEBSTER's career were not merely that he would be a great man, but the *first man*.

I have often thought that if other men could have been as diligent and assiduous as Mr. WEBSTER, they might have equaled him in achievement. When he addressed the Court, the Bar, the Senate, or the people, he ever thought he had no right to speak without previous preparation. He came before the body to which he was to speak, with his thoughts arrayed in their best dress. He thought this



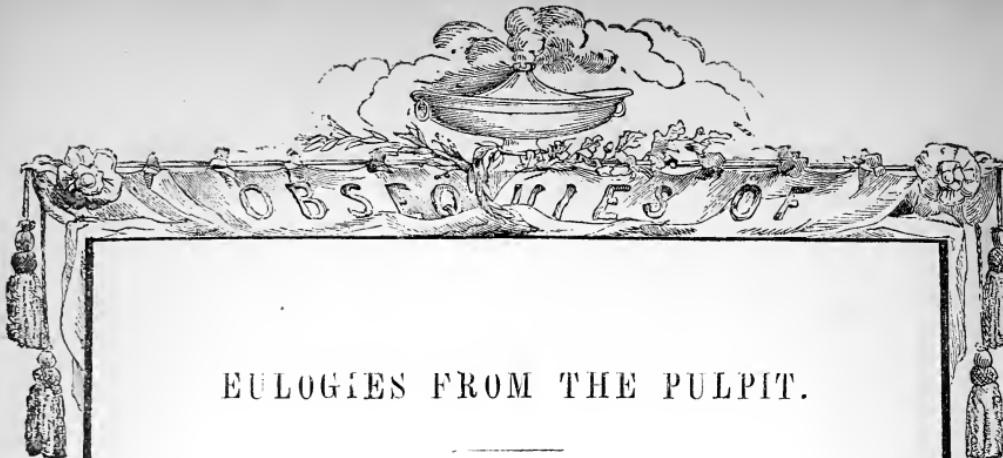
was due to men who would stand and hear him, and the result was that every thing he said was always worthy of being read ; and the works of no public man in our country have ever been so much read.

It may be conceded (whether it was a virtue or a weakness,) that DANIEL WEBSTER was ambitious. He was. He desired to attain high position, and to surpass every man who had occupied the same before him. He spared no labor or assiduity to accomplish this end. Whether he has succeeded or not, posterity must say. I will add, that it is true that he desired the highest political position in the country ; that he thought he had fairly earned a claim to that position. And I solemnly believe that because that claim was denied his days were shortened. I came here, sir, to speak of facts as they are ; neither to censure or to applaud any man, or set of men ; whether what has been done has been well done, or what has been omitted has been well omitted, the public must decide. May I be permitted to add that, though I am no man's worshipper, I have deeply sympathized in thought, in word, and in act, with that desire of Mr. WEBSTER. I have continued this sympathy with that desire to the last moment of his life. If there be honor in this, let it attach to me and mine ; if disgrace, let it be visited upon me and my children.

Mr. KETCHUM then offered the following:

*Resolved*, That every member of the Bar, and every student at law, be respectfully requested to join in such ceremony as may be ordered by the corporate authorities of this city, to testify their respect to the memory of the late Mr. WEBSTER.

The Chairman put the question, and the resolutions were carried unanimously. The meeting then dispersed.

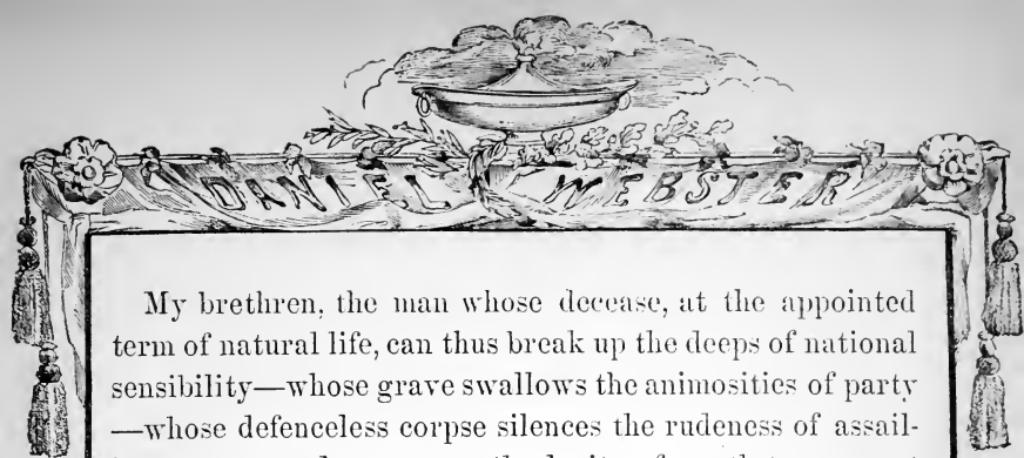


## EULOGIES FROM THE PULPIT.

DISCOURSE BY THE REV. HENRY W. BELLows,  
IN THE  
CHURCH OF DIVINE UNITY.

At rest with kings and counsellors of the earth.—JOB III., 13, 14.

There has been but one thought on the hearts and the tongues of men since we last met in this house of prayer—the passing away of that majestic spirit that lately inhabited the stately form of America's greatest boast and her most honored statesman. No funeral pageant, however splendid, could equal in dignity the burial service which the whole country has been performing, from the moment it learned its mighty bereavement. One long procession of mourners, gathered from the furthest south and the remotest west, has wended in spirit to the hearse of WEBSTER. A nation has stood about his bier. The Press has been a universal pall. Contending parties have joined hands to bear his remains to the tomb. Courts, Colleges and Chamber of Commerce mourn. States, cities and embassies have forgotten other duties to honor his ashes. Whatever public ceremonies may hereafter commemorate this solemn event, nothing can equal, in significance or grandeur, the spontaneous, unpremeditated gush of grief which, springing from millions of hearts, scattered over millions of acres, has poured a mighty river of sorrow through the life of the nation.



## DANIEL WEBSTER

My brethren, the man whose decease, at the appointed term of natural life, can thus break up the deeps of national sensibility—whose grave swallows the animosities of party—whose defenceless corpse silences the rudeness of assailing presses, and awes even the levity of youth to reverent attention—has something more to make him wept and honored than a successful career, a brilliant reputation, high office in the State, great talents, or good fortune. There must be intrinsic qualities of the rarest and most precious order lost in his decease, to cause and to justify such a sense of bereavement! Nothing short of true greatness, such as asks neither success nor voluntary recognition to attest its reality, could produce this universal and unqualified respect. A great man—such as the Almighty rarely creates—such an one as, perhaps, our age has not known in all the world; such as our country, after his kind, never knew before, nor may hope to know again—has fallen among us. We had measured his height with admiration and gratitude these many years, but it was only when he fell that we fully knew how high he had towered, and by what an interval he left others below him.

It is not chiefly for what he has done of describable service to his country—for the treaties he framed, the measures he carried, the policies he established, or the principles he upheld—that the nation is now pouring its sincerest homage upon his grave! It is for what he was, and what he would have been anywhere, in any party, connected with any policy, or living in any country; for his splendid powers, his weighty nature, his commanding character, his grand and over-awing person. DANIEL WEBSTER!—that is a title which no circumstantial or descriptive epithets can dignify or enhance. He was more and greater in him-

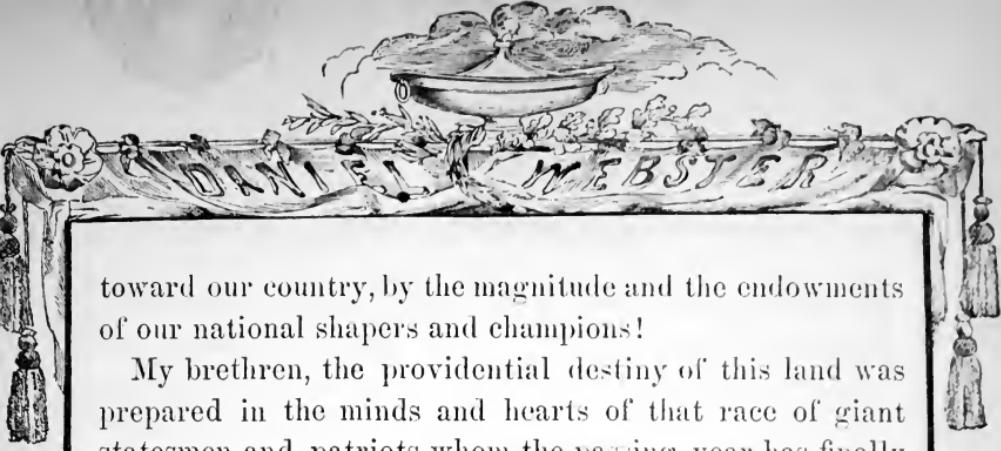


## OBSEQUIES OF

self as God made him ; he had more claims on the admiration and respect of the world as a man—as a specimen of humanity—than as a statesman, an orator, or a patriot. The honor, and hope, and inspiration with which such a noble intellect, and such a glorious presence, endow our common nature, is a greater gift than any special services can bestow. It is to God, as the sovereign reason; it is to God, as the archetype of Humanity, that we bow in gratitude and reverence, when he condescends to come nearer to us, in those rare and priceless images of Himself which shine in the capacious, commanding and imposing souls of the truly great ! DANIEL WEBSTER, despite his faults, adorned our nature. Every man is prouder and more self-respectful because he lived; and of whom such praise can be sincerely affirmed, there remains little more to be said that does not fall below the subject.

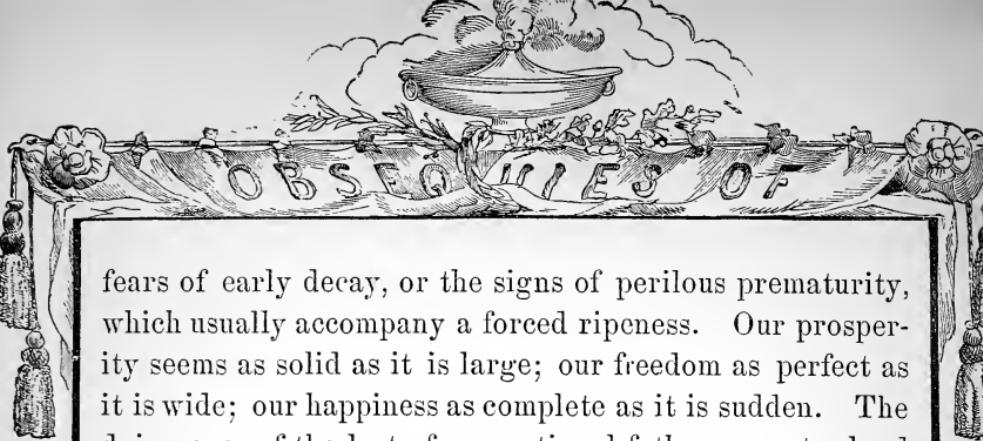
All, my brethren, that national grief and professional sorrow—all that the Forum, the Bar, the Press, could speak of eulogy, has been already tenderly and grandly said; for the mingled gratitude and regret caused by a loss so great excites an eloquence kindred to that it deplores, and in the voice of his eulogists, we seem almost again to hear his own! And now Religion must take up the theme, and draw her lessons from an event—too large and expansive not to invade and occupy the pulpit, as well as the court and the senate chamber.

Our first lessons, as Christian citizens, in view of this national bereavement, is one of gratitude to God, whose benefits never disclose their true proportions till they spread themselves for their flight, that, as a young nation, he has blessed us with leaders and educators, so wise, and great, and good—displaying the grandeur of his designs



toward our country, by the magnitude and the endowments of our national shapers and champions!

My brethren, the providential destiny of this land was prepared in the minds and hearts of that race of giant statesmen and patriots whom the passing year has finally taken from the stage of life, leaving WEBSTER, the most illustrious among the rest, to close a procession which WASHINGTON, the undeniable superior of all, began. What may not be hoped of a land which, in three years, could lose such a triumvirate of patriots and statesmen as CALHOUN, and CLAY, and WEBSTER!—which buried in one day JEFFERSON and ADAMS! and which retains in its institutions and annals, its laws and national sentiments, the memories and services, the wisdom and the devotion, the very lives and souls of HAMILTON and JAY, of MADISON and MARSHALL! Nothing but a grand crisis in the fortunes of humanity; the imagination of Liberty in a hemisphere; the opening of a new and better volume in the history of the world, could account for the upspringing, within our borders, of a band of men, whose genius, patriotism and eloquence have turned a wilderness into a garden; a feeble colony, not older than some living men, into one of the great powers of the world; and a people without a name, into the hope and inspiration of nations all over the globe! In the magnificence of their natural gifts, in the prophetic vision of their hearts, in the generous compass of their ample souls, in the shaping faculty of their legislative abilities, were hid the seeds of our greatness; and our gratitude toward them is only another form of glory to God, for the blessings he has heaped upon our country. Through their inspiration and guidance, we are enjoying, in our early youth, benefits which ordinarily reward only the venerable maturity of nations; and that, without the



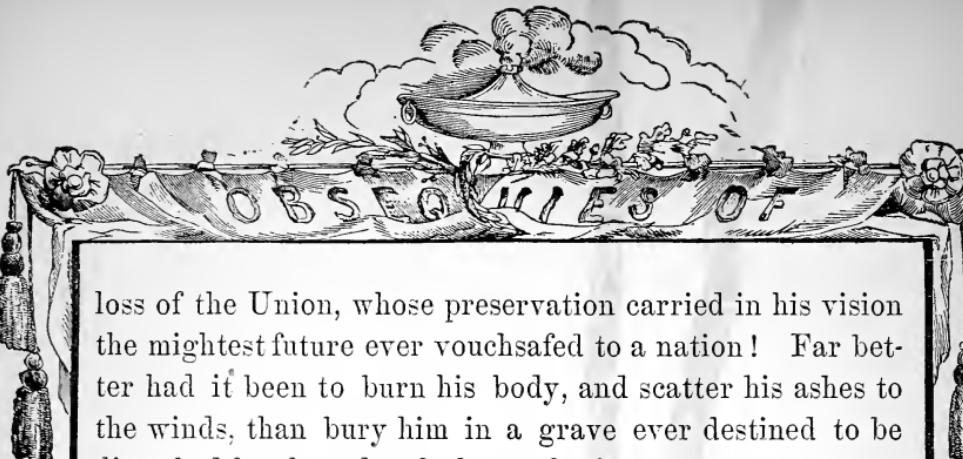
## OBSEQUIES OF

fears of early decay, or the signs of perilous prematurity, which usually accompany a forced ripeness. Our prosperity seems as solid as it is large; our freedom as perfect as it is wide; our happiness as complete as it is sudden. The dying eyes of the last of our national fathers swept a land which, almost in his own lifetime, had spread from thirteen colonies of two and a half millions of people, sparsely scattered along the borders of the Atlantic, to thirty-one States of nearly thirty millions, covering the great basin of the then unexplored Mississippi, and occupying the shores of the Pacific—a land where the log-hut in which his brothers were born, bore no greater contrast to the capitol in which his own honors were won, and his labors wrought—than the national poverty, obscurity and difficulties on which his eyes opened, bear to the universal wealth, distinction and prosperity on which they have just closed. The Constitution itself, so venerable for its character and the labors of the patriots who framed and put it in operation, is not so old as that just departed progenitor of our glories, who spent the best part of his life in its elucidation and defence. Was ever an individual life more identical with a nation's! Did it ever fall to any other band of statesmen, as to our recently departed ones, to see the foundations and the top-stone of their country's prosperity both laid in their own lifetime, and to know that their genius was sculptured alike on corner-stone and cornice! It was peculiarly true of the last spared, the latest wept, (WEBSTER,) that he lent and borrowed his country's greatness, made and shared its progress, shaped and was shaped by its destiny, while he inspired the nation with a profound sense of its privileges and responsibilities, and impressed upon it, with unequalled eloquence and force, the nature and dignity of its national principles. He, himself, seemed inspired by the genius of



## DANIEL WEBSTER

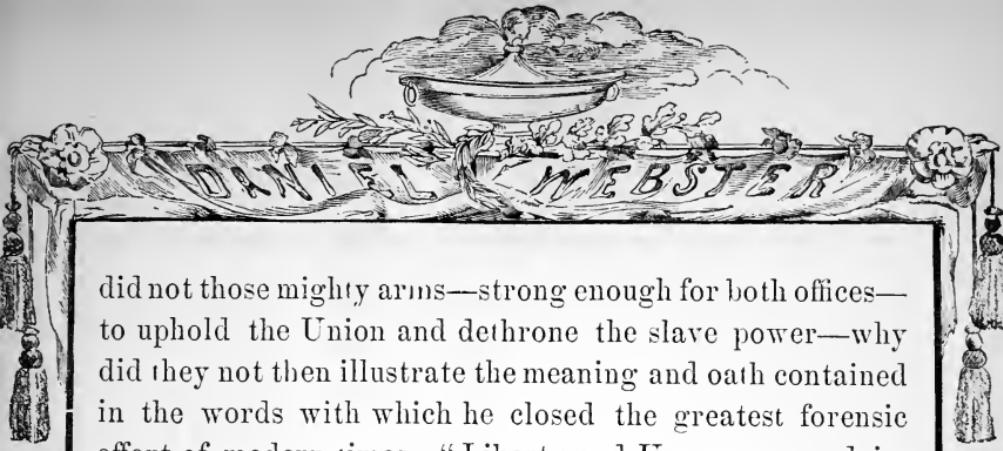
our future; gathered comprehensiveness from the breadth of our longitude and latitude; rose to a height adequate to command America's coming ages, and embodied in his speech, and port, and policy, the grandeur and the poetry of an unprecedented empire to come. In this respect, he was distinguished from all our statesmen. Justice, liberty, national prosperity, peculiar and important lines of policy, may have animated others as much, or more. The right of free speech may owe more to ADAMS; democratic freedom be more indebted to JEFFERSON; financial and federal principles to HAMILTON; a correct policy in trade, or even in foreign relations, to CLAY; and all and every interest in turn, more to WASHINGTON than all; but above all men, above all statesmen, WEBSTER was inspired with the idea of America! GOD gave him the imagination and the sensibility of a poet, that his responsive soul might anticipate the quickening, greatening pulse of his country's swelling heart, and conceive the grandeur of its throbs, should none of its growing arteries be severed, none of its filling veins be opened! How sincerely, how passionately, how characteristically was he devoted to the preservation of the Union! How largely it moved, how extensively it describes the substance of his highest eloquence! Nothing but the majestic image of his whole, undivided country could satisfy the poetic and patriotic necessities of his capacious imagination. One by one he would have surrendered his limbs to amputation, to save the secession of any member from the confederacy; and it would not have given so much agony to his death-bed to know that he must be buried like a felon, at the crossing of the roads, with a stake through his body—or like a traitor, quartered and hung over the gates of four cities—as to have feared the disruption of the land he girt about with his last embrace, or the



OBSEQUIES OF

loss of the Union, whose preservation carried in his vision the mightest future ever vouchsafed to a nation! Far better had it been to burn his body, and scatter his ashes to the winds, than bury him in a grave ever destined to be disturbed by that plough-share of ruin.

I suppose, my brethren, that his political successes and his political mistakes both sprung from this same root—unqualified devotion to the Union. Grand and glorious as this consecration is, when considered with reference to the future—yet, perhaps, it can hardly be said to be a principle fitted to quicken the moral sense, or to guide the heart to a righteous policy in regard to questions of pure duty in national concerns. I certainly feel that the commanding genius of this great patriot and statesman did, in certain cases, lead the nation to place the integrity of the Union above the integrity of the national conscience, and that, in so far, he helped to sacrifice the greater to the less. But now, that passionate disappointment is cooled with tears and the damp of death, I will not be so presumptuous as to say that, in his own sober and sincere judgment, the preservation of the Union did not include every other duty, and was not urged by him in a spirit of pure patriotism. If he erred—and greatly he seems to me to have erred—it was, I will believe, only because the whole tenor of his life, the whole force of his visions, the whole splendor of his faculties, had concentrated themselves upon one great object, until others, of even larger magnitude, had no room within the field of his fascinated, intense and single eye. Oh! that God had granted him and us the blessing of an advocacy from that victorious tongue of an uncompromising devotion to the principles of freedom and humanity in that awful crisis when the unprofaned lips of WEBSTER were left to retract the lessons and vows of his previous life! Why



did not those mighty arms—strong enough for both offices—to uphold the Union and dethrone the slave power—why did they not then illustrate the meaning and oath contained in the words with which he closed the greatest forensic effort of modern times—“Liberty and Union, one and inseparable, now and forever.” Perhaps, to spare us the sin of idolatry, God has fixed this mark of imperfection upon him whom we were about to worship!

But let us now turn from what he did to what he was; from his services and his political and national principles, to his nature and his character. If, in the first place, we have cause, in view of the patriot’s death, to bless God, as citizens, for the transcendent gift of his services to our youthful nation, in the second place, as we lay all that is mortal of DANIEL WEBSTER in the dust, we have cause to bless God, as men, for the inspiring example of his nature and genius, for what he was, and the lustre he shed on our common humanity. And here, in a peculiar sense, it seems to me, our admiration of the man partakes of piety; for his gifts were rather the direct endowments of his Maker, than the fruits of culture or experience, largely as he was stored with these. His greatness inherited in his nature even more than in his character. God made him a great man. He was at once superior to any obstacle he encountered, to any place or office to which he was called, to any adversary who came out against him. Almost without effort, by the specific gravity of his being, he overcame men and circumstances, and settled into his central and commanding place. As a lawyer, an orator, a senator, a cabinet officer, a companion, his personality seemed to give such a preponderance to his words, that their most ordinary utterance outweighed the eloquence, learning and wit of other men. He, *himself*, was the great adjective which

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backed the naked substantives to which he so often committed his statements. "I thank you," from him, meant more than the most elaborate compliments from another. Such a sense did his majestic presence convey of the comprehensive intelligence, the matured wisdom, the subtle insight, the exact appreciation of the mightiest and the most delicate relations of every subject to which he directed his mind, that the world waited not for his arguments, but only for his statement. It was enough to know what he thought; that was reason, eloquence and conviction in itself.

And in still another sense was Mr. WEBSTER's mind a direct gift of God, rather than the formation of secondary influences. He dwelt characteristically near the great transparent fountains of principles, and never moved far from them. First truths were his habitual food. Insight, far more than learning, characterised his legal efforts. What he himself forcibly said of DEXTER may more truly be said of himself: "he went behind precedents to principles," and sought the springs from which the law has flowed. This it is which makes his pleas, even in the most technical cases, as interesting and as intelligible as a tale. The preponderousness of his intellect seldom suffered him to leave the great high roads of thought; and when passion drove his weighty being into unexplored regions, he left a permanent and open road behind him, with all the marks of newness effaced by the consolidating pressure of his huge understanding. A man of such native wisdom needs not intellectual originality. What lower understandings approach by ingenuity, or supply the want of by invention, or reason toward by elaborate argument, lighting themselves on their dark search by brilliant fancy and dazzling rhetoric, minds of the order of WEBSTER, knowing by in-



tuition, and holding in the form of serene wisdom, have only to state in lucid simplicity, without effort or decoration, without even the show of newness or the pretence of variety, to produce all the effects of the highest eloquence, and to reach, at one blow, and with equal force, the sympathies, and the admiration, and the convictions of wise and simple, learned and ignorant. Mr. WEBSTER seemed always to be telling people what they knew before, but what, from him, was more intensely interesting in its familiarity than any novelty or surprise from another. He produced his grandest effects by the simplest machinery; and the most eloquent, original, or profound sentences he ever uttered could not puzzle an intelligent child.

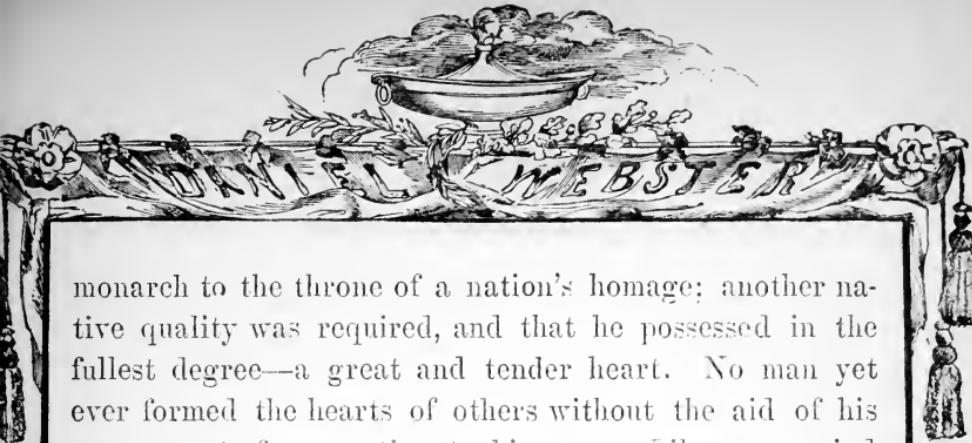
But it was not native wisdom alone that made him what he was. His sagacity would have made him great, but not an orator or a statesman. To this was wanting what he had in splendor—a sublime imagination, which lacked only a versatility incompatible with his intellectual weight, to have made him a peer of the great poets, whose jeweled verses so often found the fittest setting in his solid prose. MILTON and SHAKSPEARE, and the bards of the Bible, never illuminated an orb more kindred with their own, than when shedding some borrowed beams upon his weighty and majestic sentences. How grand, how useful, was this imagination! It showed itself in the cast of his plainest arguments, in the appreciation of every occasion, in the choice of his opportunities, the line of his policy, the nature of his views and opinions; nay, in the whole bearing, costume and look of the man, as much as in the poetic fires or flashes of light with which he occasionally kindled his subject and his hearers. It was a poet who conceived and pronounced the orations at Plymouth Rock and at



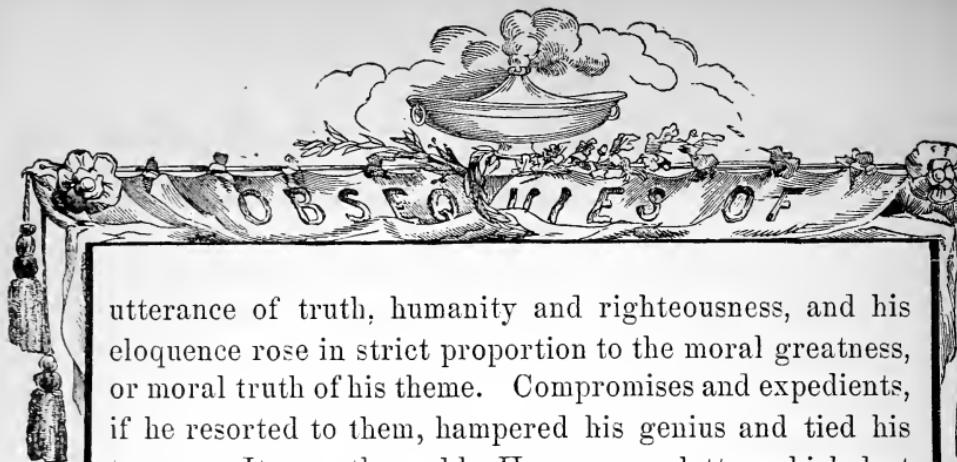
Bunker Hill; the answers to HAYNE and CALHOUN, and the speech on the Greek resolutions. It was the poet, as much as the statesman and patriot, who made the Constitution almost a personal presence to his countrymen, and lifted the Union from a dead abstraction into a living creature—the subject of warm affections, and intense hopes and fears. And how sublime and affecting, because of almost scriptural simplicity and familiarity, were the images with which this poetic intellect illustrated his themes! Rarely did he bring any thing smaller or less known than the sun, the stars, the ocean, the river, the oak, or the grass, to adorn or elucidate his wisdom and eloquence. Yet, such was the truth of his analogies, such the appositeness of his images, that the sun and the ocean were both new when they gleamed in his sentences, and the moral or political truths with which he blended their beams and waves, seemed to have been waiting from creation for the union which he consummated. This high imagination appeared in his daily character and conduct, as much as in his policy or his rhetoric. It gave dignity and simplicity to his manners; it presided over his chosen estates; it decided his dress; it lent a charm to his associates, and clothed, with their peculiar interest, the commonest persons and places about him. "Things were not what they seemed" to his poetic eye. He had the vision and the faculty divine;" and WORDSWORTH himself did not more than WEBSTER find in

"——the meanest flower that blows,  
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears."

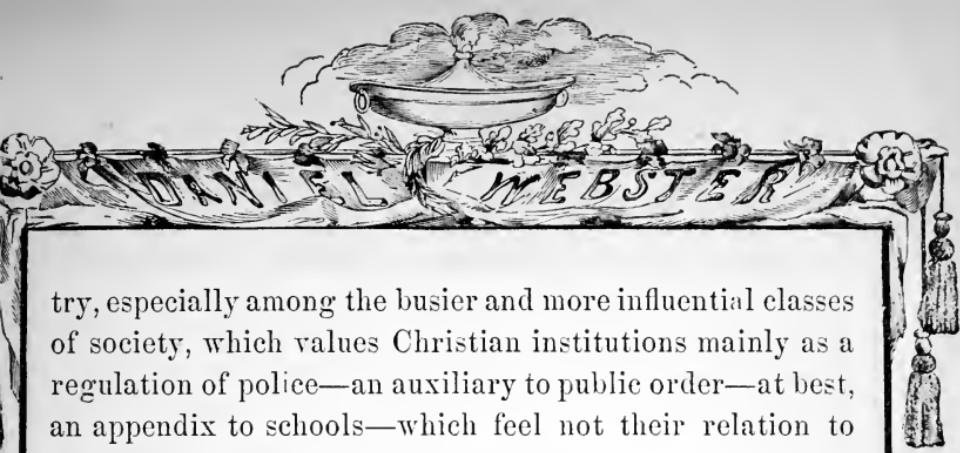
But it was not an intellect of the greatest natural sagacity and weight, nor an imagination of the most shaping and plastic power, alone or united, that lifted our deceased



monarch to the throne of a nation's homage; another native quality was required, and that he possessed in the fullest degree—a great and tender heart. No man yet ever formed the hearts of others without the aid of his own, or out of proportion to his own. Like every mind of the highest class, DANIEL WEBSTER was a man of sentiment, of fluent affections, of genuine pathos, of tender sensibility. In his genuine character, he fully obeyed the injunction, "As thou art strong be merciful." He was as gentle as gigantic, with the docility as well as the force of the elephant. Who ever thought of comparing him to any beast of prey? A knightly courtesy kept his lance lowered, even in the presence of the most irritating challengers, until the trumpet sounded the call of national honor; and then, his charge, if irresistible, carried no contempt, no malice, and no mortification in its victory. He provoked and fought no duels; occasioned and engaged in no frays; offered or challenged no insult in debates. A model of dignity and stately courtesy, he exhibited the kindness of his heart even beneath the phlegm and oppressive weight of his presence—as soft and melting as the snow, even when as cold and as massive. It was this warm and tender heart which made his eloquence so touching. No man understood the soft spots in the bosoms of a jury, or a popular assembly better than he. He allotted to the affections their own large place among the interests of human life; and no orator ever dwelt more, or more movingly, upon the sacredness and charm of the domestic relations, or drew his rhetoric from a more genuine source. His heart too was as true in its instincts as it was powerful in its action. He could not argue the wrong side of a question. He was himself only, when engaged in the

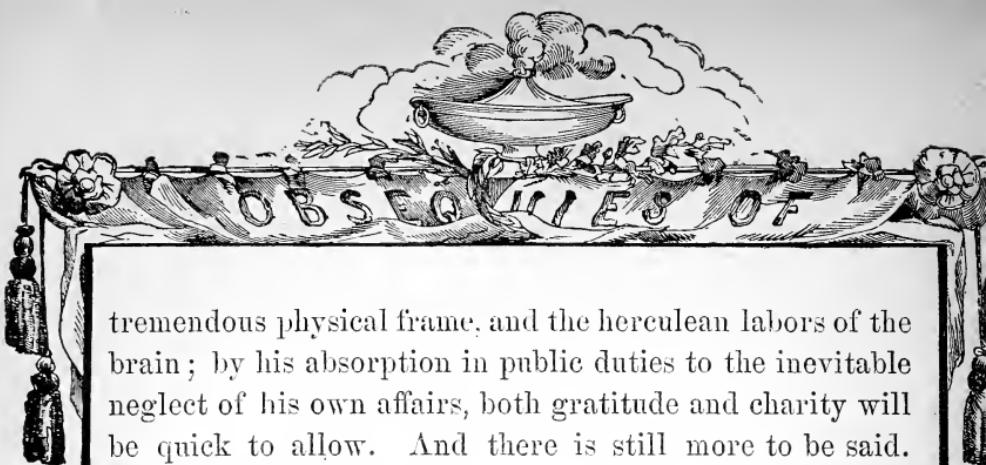


utterance of truth, humanity and righteousness, and his eloquence rose in strict proportion to the moral greatness, or moral truth of his theme. Compromises and expedients, if he resorted to them, hampered his genius and tied his tongue. It was the noble HULSEMANN letter which last carried all of that generous heart in its majestic tide—as if his nature found a grateful vent in our foreign relations, more recently denied him by our domestic affairs. Above all, his heart was reverential in its aspirations as it was true in its instincts. God was the next and only thing above that towering soul, and as WEBSTER was greater and more tender than others, so was he more adequate in his conceptions and more sensitive in his recognition of the divine character and presence. Like all high and rich natures, Religion was a necessity and an instinct of his being. No levity, indifference or formality, stained his outward piety ; neither his philosophy, his observation, nor his ambition, disposed him to forget or banish Christianity from his tongue or his fireside. He was unfeignedly devout, and gave his tears and his sympathies to every moving expression of piety from the lips of others. I have heard that he valued himself upon his speech in the case of Mr. GIRARD'S will ; so much of which is devoted to the magnifying of the Scriptures, and the exaltation of religion, more than upon any of his more splendid addresses. He never failed to welcome religious conversation, nor wearied of speaking the praises of the Old Testament literature, or the New Testament precepts. In his moral and poetic appreciation of the grandeur, beauty and value of the religious sentiment, and that which is its principal support, the Gospel of CHRIST, what a lesson does he offer to that meagre and frozen utilitarianism so common in our coun-



try, especially among the busier and more influential classes of society, which values Christian institutions mainly as a regulation of police—an auxiliary to public order—at best, an appendix to schools—which feel not their relation to the profoundest and most dignified wants of the soul, nor the glory and beauty they shed over the personal character, when wholly penetrated with their sanctity and sentiment. From the same root with his veneration, sprung his singular elegance and classic tastes. The most practical of men, he was the daintiest of critics on himself, the nicest practitioner of decorum and dignity, and exhibited a taste, too rarely copied or even sought, in his manners, dress, and style. No slovenliness, self-depreciation, hurry, affectation of contempt for trifles or superiority to common feelings, deformed his gracious and elegant character. He stooped to no *ad captandum* ways, hurried to no undignified explanations, sought popularity by no unworthy acts or hypocritical condescensions. He knew his place, and he claimed and filled it. Death itself could not weaken his noble self-possession, nor diminish his lofty dignity. He evidently sympathized, at his last hour, with that other self—the nation—in his own bereavement, and seemed bending with his country over his own ashes, when he said, “On the 24th of October all that is mortal of DANIEL WEBSTER shall be no more!”

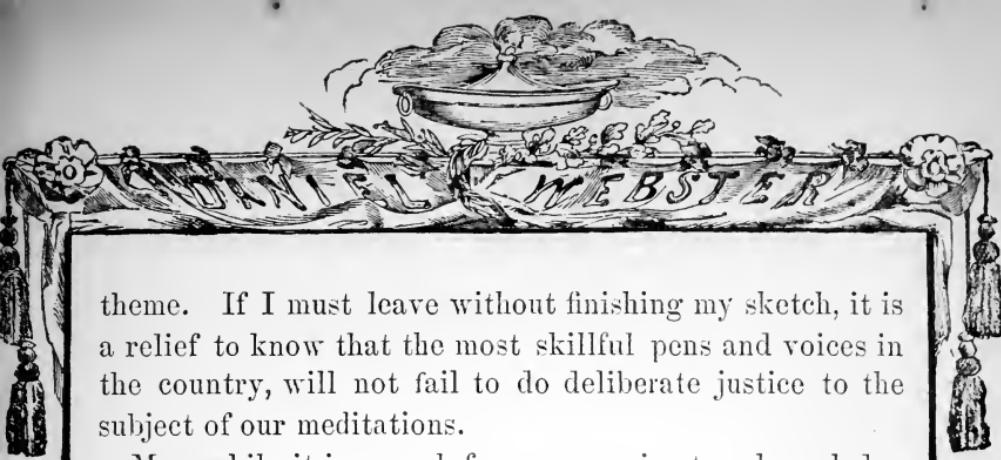
In claiming, in this sacred place, a large, true, and devout heart for DANIEL WEBSTER, it would ill become me to conceal the moral errors of that great and tempted nature. He had, if public rumor be not the blackest of liars, his vices and his weaknesses; he was reputed self-indulgent in his appetites, and careless in his pecuniary obligations. All the apology to be afforded by the exigencies of his



tremendous physical frame, and the herculean labors of the brain; by his absorption in public duties to the inevitable neglect of his own affairs, both gratitude and charity will be quick to allow. And there is still more to be said. His vices were infirmities, not malignant dispositions or brazen violations of right and duty. They did not sensibly corrupt his public principles, nor creep into his works, nor invite companions and successors. Virtue and piety have all the support of his great judgment and his dignified remains. He never paraded, never defended, never acknowledged as his own, any laxity of morals. He wished to be, and to pass for a man of strict integrity and devoutness. Moreover, his faults were probably exaggerated, and those who suffered most by them, were usually the last to complain. And yet the unhappy influence which these errors and mistakes; these vices or infirmities had upon his influence and reputation, great as both were, exhibits, in the most melancholy and afflictive way, the malignity of vice; the dreadful retribution that follows ungoverned appetites or scrupulous dealings! The last thing which that wise and noble man would bequeath to his country, would be the admiration or defence of his errors. But let me be silent, for in the language of the poet and the poem, which consoled his last struggle, do we not seem to hear his dying depreciation and request in the closing verse of the elegy he called for :

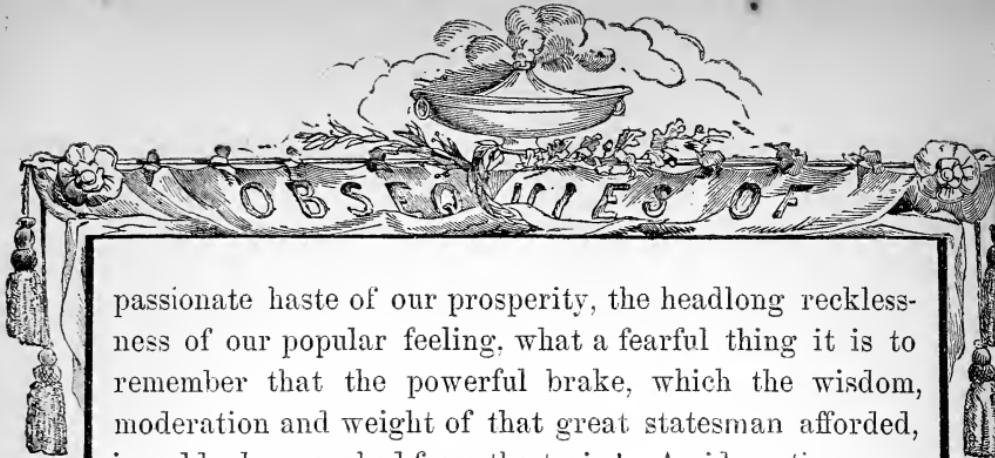
" Nor further seek his merits to disclose,  
Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode,  
(There they alike in trembling hope repose,)  
The bosom of his Father and his God."

My brethren, I may weary your patience before I have gratified half my longing to speak on this interesting



theme. If I must leave without finishing my sketch, it is a relief to know that the most skillful pens and voices in the country, will not fail to do deliberate justice to the subject of our meditations.

Meanwhile it is enough for one occasion to acknowledge and to feel our loss, without exactly measuring its extent. The last of our great men has left us! Our country has buried with him the whole generation of its founders! The nation is committed to its own hands. Its parents and sponsors are dead! Its guardians have closed their trust! Our immense fortune has fallen to our uncontrolled possession! The deference, the dependence, the obedience, which age and dignity, and long services, and vast experience exacted, the tomb now relinquishes. No majestic forms stand longer upon our shores, intercepting the reverence and confidence of foreign nations, and representing and assuming the stability, the wisdom and the temperance of our country and our government. In their stead the world now sees only the American people—an army without officers, commissioned by God; a nation stript of the seers and guides that hitherto attended and directed its march. The Malachi of our First Dispensation has concluded his prophecy, and the Old Testament of our history is closed! It is a solemn and a critical period in our affairs; and the universal and unusual sensibility which marks our people show that, temporarily at least, the nation tremblingly feels the responsibility of the independence, the solemnity of the destitution, now for the first time experienced. Oh, fellow-citizens! tremendous are the issues hanging over this country—feeble, alas! I fear, the customary sense of the difficulties attending the formation and defence of a great national character! Amid the



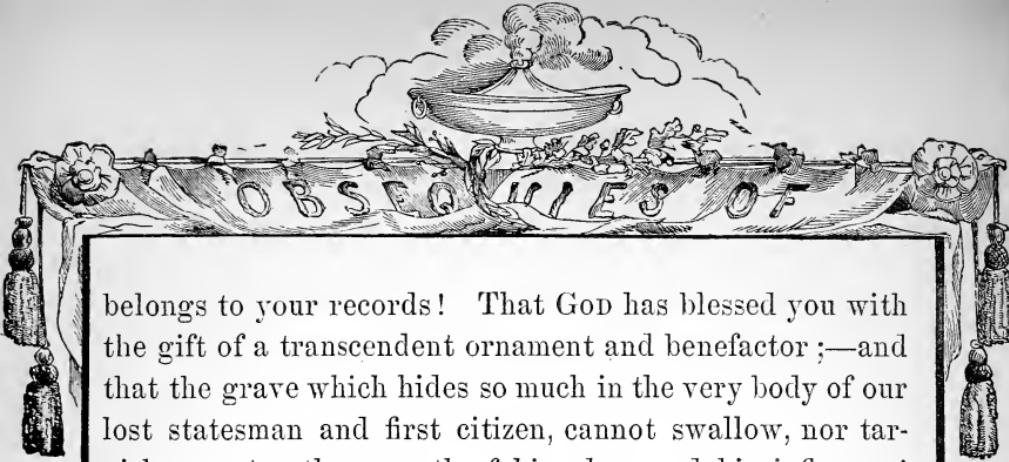
passionate haste of our prosperity, the headlong recklessness of our popular feeling, what a fearful thing it is to remember that the powerful brake, which the wisdom, moderation and weight of that great statesman afforded, is suddenly wrenched from the train! Amid partisan contentions and the subserviencies of personal ambition, the elevation of available candidates to high offices, the growing predominancy of military merits, or party serviceableness—with an increasing recklessness in our municipal functionaries—nowhere so shameful as in our metropolis—a growing disregard for decorum and dignity in the great chambers of the nation; in a day when no high officer of state is secure against charges of peculation and bribery: what can measure the loss of a tried and trusted national statesman, above all parties as above all private passions in his devotion to national order, the honor of the country, and the dignity and purity of public office! My countrymen, we must arouse ourselves from this stupor of private prosperity; this delirium of social ambition; this blind confidence in the blessedness of our national destiny; this faith in a Providence we do nothing to propitiate, and a future we fail to prepare. One after another, the pilots have dropped from the helm. Not accident, nor good fortune, nor smooth seas, but their skill and faithfulness, brought our ship of state to this prosperous latitude! But the last and greatest of the helmsmen is beneath the waves he rode so well, and we are heaving at the mercy of the winds, protected only by our recollection and use of the lessons and ways he, and such as he, have left us. Shall we not henceforth become more watchful and zealous in the duties and the example we owe our country? Shall we not more deeply feel our responsibility to elect good



men to office, now that no permanent check upon their conduct is left at the centre of power? Will not this very election, on the eve of which the death of WEBSTER has occurred, make us less selfish and sinful in the discharge of our sacred duty as citizens, to *vote*, and to vote conscientiously? Only so, can we prove ourselves worthy to escape the perils and evils which must otherwise follow our bereavement as a nation, or fit to perform the new duties which fall upon a people, for the first time thrown wholly upon their own intelligence and virtue!

But our last words shall not be of ourselves, but of him! "At rest with kings and counsellors of the earth," "the honorable man and the counsellor and the cunning artificer and the eloquent orator," lies in his recent grave! That weighty brain, whose gravity balanced the destinies of our country, has rolled from the scale! That majestic front, which we were proud to advance as the impersonation of our natural dignity, is level with the dust; that tongue, so wise, so sweet, so calm, so convincing—which dropped the mingled music of ancient and modern eloquence, is cleaving forever to the roof of its mouth—"All that was mortal of DANIEL WEBSTER," is lost to New England—to America, Weep, ye young children, who never saw and shall never hear nor behold that rarest product of our hemisphere! Weep, oh my native state and natal city, that your crown, your glory, is departed! Come, clouds and vapors, and cover the granite hills of New Hampshire! and rise, ye fogs and mists, from marsh and ocean, to shroud New England—for the day of her mourning has come! Her father and her son in one hearse—her pride and her power are in *his* grave, and mountain and ocean cannot adorn her, as his presence gilded her soil and her name!

And yet rejoice my country! that an imperishable fame



belongs to your records ! That God has blessed you with the gift of a transcendent ornament and benefactor ;—and that the grave which hides so much in the very body of our lost statesman and first citizen, cannot swallow, nor tarnish, nor stop the growth of his glory and his influence ! Rejoice, Humanity, that you may enlarge the boundaries of your conceptions and hopes, as you measure his completed genius and life. Rejoice, Freedom, that thy noblest intellect of the age was born and died within your territories. Rejoice, Religion, that the weightiest judgment and the maturest wisdom, in him bowed most reverently at your altars. Rejoice, all ye personal lovers and friends of that care-worn pilot of the state, that, living in honor and dying in faith and patience at a good old age, the burdened shoulder and the aching brow are released from care and pain, and DANIEL WEBSTER, for the third of a century never freed from the weight of our interests, and sorrows, and destinies, is now in his home-made grave—“at rest with kings and counsellors of the earth.”

“ Nor further seek his merits to disclose,  
Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode,  
(There they alike in trembling hope repose,)  
The bosom of his Father and his God.”

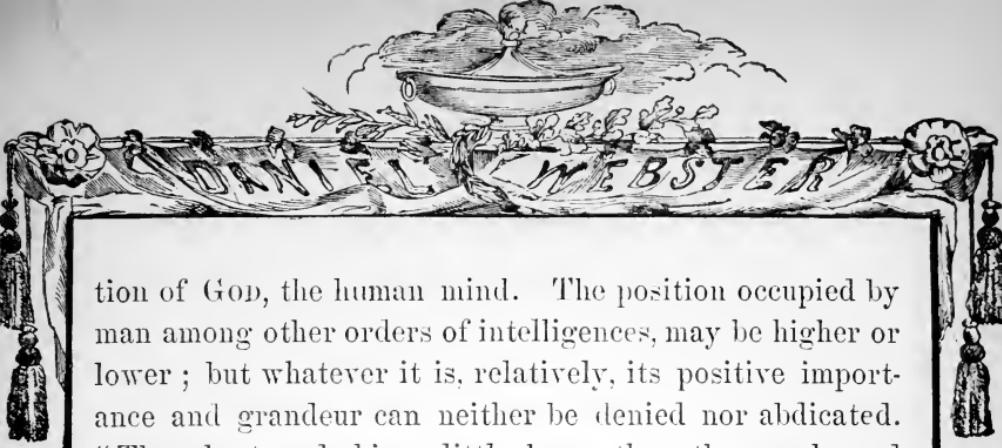
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DISCOURSE BY THE REV. GEORGE B. CHEEVER,  
IN THE  
CHURCH OF THE PURITANS.

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Not many wise men after the flesh—not many mighty,—not many noble are called.—Cor. i. 26.

We stand amazed, as the Psalmist did, in whatever way it can be viewed, before that sublime-and wonderful crea-



tion of GOD, the human mind. The position occupied by man among other orders of intelligences, may be higher or lower ; but whatever it is, relatively, its positive importance and grandeur can neither be denied nor abdicated. "Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor." A little lower than the angels ! Yet one of the greatest minds of our race, and that, too, a mind illuminated by divine wisdom, has deliberately affirmed that "as to man's mental part, he is, besides his moral debasement, at the very bottom of the gradation of probably innumerable millions of intellectual races ; certainly at the bottom, since a being inferior to man in intellect, could not be rational."—(JOHN FOSTER.) But reason itself is almost at an infinite remove from all manifestations of life that do not amount to it ; and a being, of whom it can be said in any proper sense, that GOD made him in his own image, must be an infinitely wonderful creation, by whatever degrees of the same rational intelligence other orders may rise above him, nearer toward the throne of GOD. And whatever becomes of human speculation, the assumption of our nature by the SON OF GOD, the investiture of Deity itself with our humanity, is a transaction marking emphatically GOD's own appreciation of the value of the human soul, and in some sense it makes, of the whole human race, a new creation in importance and glory.

But between individuals of our race, the differences of great and small, as in the comparison we note them, must be regarded as infinitely inconsiderable to GOD. Great minds are indeed GOD's gift ; inequalities in original furniture and power are evidently his pleasure. It is GOD's own arrangement for us, that some minds shall tower far



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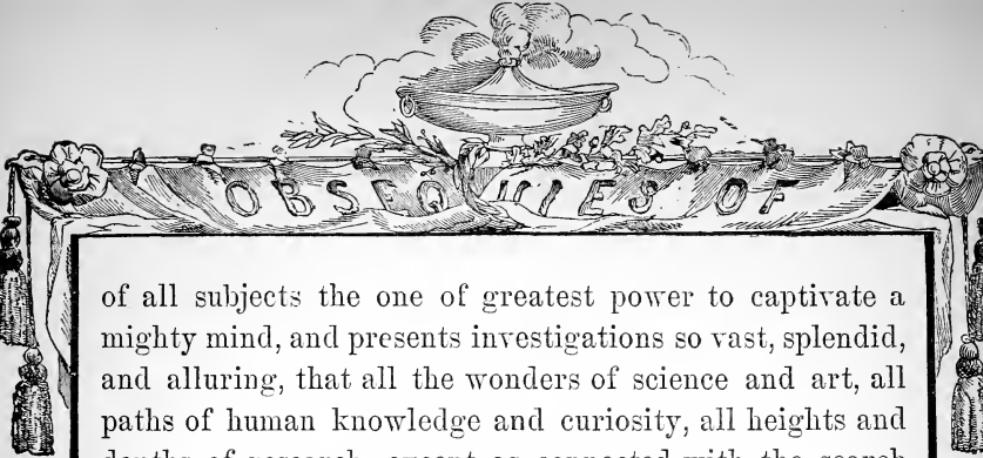
above others ; shall be like great mountains, whose summits receive the sun's rays earlier, and dismiss them later, than all ordinary elevations. And even if these inequalities were at the cost of some loss to the average of intellectual power, the loss would be gain ; even if what goes to make one man mightier than others were taken from the whole sum of human intelligence, to be thus individually bestowed. There is a marked analogy in the arrangement of God's physical world. If the whole prodigious mass and elevation of the Alps were crumbled to a level, and distributed over all Europe, the whole gain, superficially, would be only a few feet of ordinary soil in thickness. But the exciting grandeur and glory of the mountains, the inspiring sublimity of their majestic forms rising into the heavens, and, as it were, piercing and communing with Eternity, would be gone ; and an element of power would be lost from even our mental and moral sphere of gift and endowment, for which no material gain could compensate. Just so it is with the inequalities of our intellectual systems. It is therefore a vast benefit to our race, when God raises up a mind among us of transcendent ability and investment, in capacity and form towering and eminent. And although by far the greater number of such intelligences have manifested, in moral disposition, an abasement and deformity, a deficiency and degradation, terribly the reverse, in comparison with the grandeur of their intellectual frame and attainments, yet God has still made use of them as gigantic hewers of wood and drawers of water in the advancement of his own plans ; and even when such minds, as has sometimes been the case, have openly defied his authority, cast contempt upon his Word, and almost denied his very existence, yet God has, all unknowing to themselves, set them at work to build



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his own temple, to hew and shape the stone for its foundation, and to work at the pulleys, by which the materials of the superstructure shall be hoisted into place and permanence. So he ever exercises his own great prerogative of bringing good out of evil, just as he pleases, and goes on, causing the wrath of man to praise him, and restraining the remainder of wrath.

But it is a sad and solemn thing to run over the catalogue of great names, since the Christian era, in almost every nation visited by God's refreshing light, and see how great a proportion have been men totally astray from God, under the supreme dominion of selfishness and unhallowed passion ; and to find that, although brought so much nearer to God, as to the mere intellectual ability to perceive their relations to him and to the universe, and to catch the rays of Divine truth before others, they have yet lived and died utterly without God, and without hope in the world. Multitudes have prostituted the highest gifts of genius, and even of the reasoning faculty, for the ruin of their race. And only here and there we see rising in the serenity, majesty and glory of Christian faith and usefulness, with the light from heaven unclouded, bathing their regal fronts in splendor, such mighty forms as of MILTON, NEWTON, HALE, BOYLE, JOHNSON and BURKE. Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, in such light. It is extremely rare that such a man is taken in his wisdom, in his might, in his nobility, and with his treasures of intellect, attainment, power and regulation, converted unto God. And there are a great many reasons that render this natural, inevitable ; although the transcendent majesty and glory of the Gospel are such, even when viewed only intellectually, that it is



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of all subjects the one of greatest power to captivate a mighty mind, and presents investigations so vast, splendid, and alluring, that all the wonders of science and art, all paths of human knowledge and curiosity, all heights and depths of research, except as connected with the search after GOD, pass into absolute insignificance and meanness in the comparison. Yet, the heart being darkened, the light of heaven excluded, and the habit formed of digging like the mole, instead of soaring like the eagle, even the greatest minds may lose all sight and true sense of the glory ; and the mind being filled with objects presented by the god of this world, a great barrier is built up, a dark solid wall, interposing and separating before the vision of those immortal realities, for which the greatest and the smallest minds alike were created, and which alone are worthy of the mind's possession. Thus it is that ambition, the love of human applause, the pride of intellect, and a host of vast voracious passions set on fire of sin, make such minds their prey, and hold them darkened and captive, before the cross of CHRIST is admitted to their notice. And, as eagles beat out the eyes of their victims with the flapping of their fierce strong wings, so do these vultures of the mind destroy men's moral vision, till they put evil for good and good for evil ; and under the power of long-continued and chosen prejudice, ignorance, error, neglect, habitual sin, darkness, insensibility and procrastination, pass into eternity, even with a lie in their right hand, to present themselves and it before the throne of the Eternal.

But though not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, to whom the Gospel comes and finds them entrenched in their wisdom, their might, their nobleness, their riches, power, prosperity, and self-complacency, are called, (a thing which GOD seems to have



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avoided on purpose,) yet many there be whom GOD *has* called, and *made* wise, mighty and noble by the treasures of his grace, and the glory of his truth in CHRIST JESUS ; grace and truth of such expanding and glorifying power, that even humble intellects, when brought beneath its full influence, and irradiated and disciplined by its light, are made majestic, being changed from glory to glory into the same image that is made the object of their gaze. And minds originally great, when educated beneath such celestial powers, and trained by them, are transfigured into something rather heavenly and divine than earthly, and invested with a glory as of angels. Hence the Church is never wanting, and never shall be, in giant sons of GOD, recognized by all the human race, as beings of vast intellect, and of wisdom and eloquence inspired by the Gospel, and transcendently grand and glorious. Hence such names as USHER, LEIGHTON, HOWE, STILLINGFLEET, CUDWORTH, CLARKE, MORE, BARROW, TAYLOR, HOOKER, LUTHER, PASCAL, WICKLIFFE, BAXTER, BUTLER, BUNYAN, NEWTON, CowPER, and many others, besides those before named, of beings new-created, and robed as on the Mount with JESUS, by being carried up thither, or adopted as MOSES, and retained with GOD, till every movement and feature is radiant with glory.

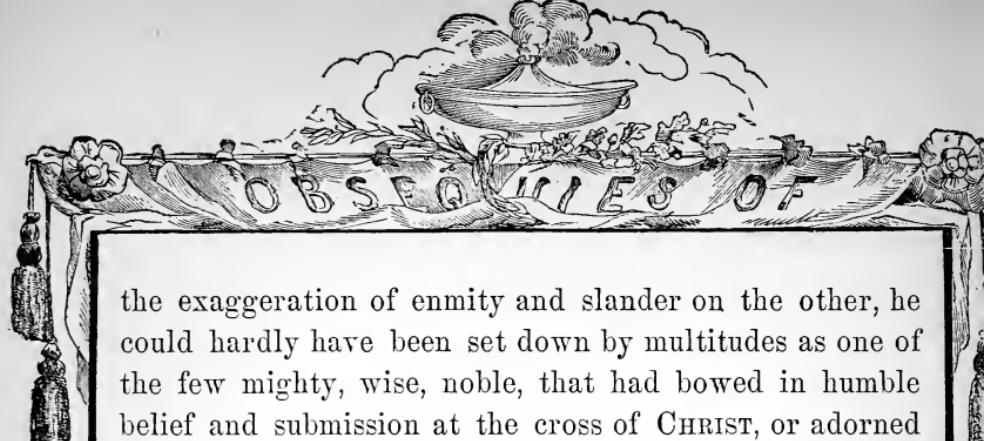
In such minds, the manifold riches of GOD's wisdom and love in CHRIST JESUS already in this world are revealed in a mighty manifestation unto principalities and powers in heavenly places, and the glory of GOD in the face of JESUS CHRIST is illustrated ; and foremost in such, according to each one's measure of the grace of GOD, will be the unimagined revelation, when the LORD JESUS, revealed from heaven, shall come to be glorified in his saints, and

admired in all who believe. But wisdom is not desirable, nor might, nor majesty, nor nobleness of intellect, if not thus quickened by the Divine life, and irradiated by Divine light. "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might; let not the rich man glory in his riches; but he that glorieth, let him glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth the LORD GOD, exercising loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness." If this be not his knowledge and his boast, then the man of mighty intellect will covet, in the world of woe, the most contracted sphere of the smallest mind ever created, rather than his own vast reach of thought. For it is obvious that the men of greatest intellectual grasp and foresight—the men of most rapid and profound intuition—the men of greatest ability to weigh evidence—the minds of quickest and clearest discernment and discrimination to seize all the main points in a case, array them, and pour a blaze of light upon them, are the men bound to be foremost in the reception of the salvation of the Gospel, being fitted natively and intellectually for the highest conception of its glory, and the most enlarged comprehension of the consequences of rejecting it. And if such minds turn away from it, then, as their orbit of intellect and influence here was greater than that of other men, their sphere and experience of perdition hereafter must be vaster and more profound. For as, the greater the endowments of an individual mind, and the wider its capacity and reach of thought and reasoning, the greater are its responsibilities to God and man, so also, the greater its debasement, if it fails and falls beneath them, or disowns and denies its birth-right, and the greater and more terrible its destruction in the day when so vast a stewardship is brought to

its reckoning. "If the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" If such an heir of immortality wastes and abuses its inestimable privileges, throws down into ruins such a temple of glory, devastates such possibilities of infinite worth, dignity, and enjoyment, there can be nothing before it but the certainty of judgment and fiery indignation, nothing in the *resurrection* of such ruin *after* death, but the shame, everlasting contempt, and misery of the *second* death; Capernaum at Heaven's gates deeper than Sodom and Gomorrah in hell! "How art thou fallen from heaven, O, Lucifer, son of the morning!" There have been individual minds, that have experienced the reality of that sublime, lucid reception in the world of woe, written as with flashes of lightning in the prophet Isaiah. Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth: it hath raised up from their thrones all the chief ones of the nations! The planets burning, the stars falling from heaven, as when a fig-tree casteth her untimely figs, are wholly inadequate images of such a ruin.

Now I say that the mightiest intellects, if admitting at all the light of evidence from Heaven, must experience, in the strongest manner, the weight of such truths, as if mountains were hurled upon the soul, and can bear them only by being themselves borne up in the very hand of the Almighty beneath them.

Such a mind was Mr. WEBSTER's. Before his death, what between the realities of imperfection and of evil in life on the one side, (which if all that GOD knows of any one of us were not only known to the world, but malignantly heralded and magnified, who could endure us?) and



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the exaggeration of enmity and slander on the other, he could hardly have been set down by multitudes as one of the few mighty, wise, noble, that had bowed in humble belief and submission at the cross of CHRIST, or adorned the doctrine of God our Savior by the permanent and consistent example of a watchful piety. Alas! the very *standard* of piety, in too many cases among our public men, is painfully loose, and the arena of political life is a fearful trial of the integrity of a Christian soul. Nevertheless, the conviction of these truths, and the meditation of a vast awakened consciousness upon them, together with awe and solemnity at the very idea of God, had early filled Mr. WEBSTER's mind, into whatever temporary forgetfulness he might have been led astray from duty and from prayer.

The powers of the world to come stood plain in their infinitude before him. Almost every word that he uttered on the subject of God and Eternity bore the stamp, not of speculation, but of unfathomable, grand, irresistible conviction. The die of his whole mind, sure, gigantic, unhesitating, had come down, as beneath the weight of Eternity, upon that coinage. "Every man," said he, "must stand or fall alone. He must live for himself, and die for himself, and give up his account to the omniscient God, as though he were the only dependent creature in the universe. The Gospel leaves the individual sinner alone with himself and his God. To his own master he stands or falls. He has nothing to hope from the aid and sympathy of associates." Hence, too, Mr. WEBSTER's strong, emphatic declaration, that when he came into the house of God, he would have the Gospel made a personal matter, with a personal application. "If clergymen, in our days," said he, "would return to the simplicity of the Gospel, and



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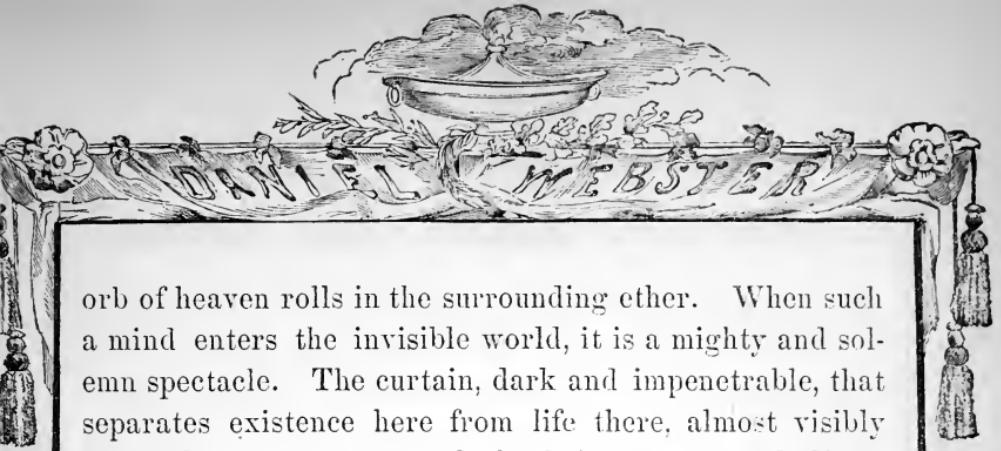
preach more to individuals, and less to the crowd, there would not be so much complaint of the decline of true religion. Many of the ministers of the present day take their text from St. Paul, and preach from the newspapers. When they do so, I prefer to enjoy my own thoughts, rather than to listen. I want my pastor to come to me in the spirit of the Gospel, saying, ‘You are mortal! Your probation is brief—your work must be done speedily. You are immortal, too; you are hastening to the bar of GOD; the Judge standeth before the door!’ When I am thus admonished I have no disposition to muse or to sleep.”

In the spirit of such convictions Mr. WEBSTER uttered that great testimonial on occasion of the death of JEREMIAH MASON. “Religion,” said he, “is a necessary and indispensable element in any great human character. There is no living without it. Religion is the tie that connects man with his Creator, and holds him to his throne. If that tie be sundered or broken, he floats away, a worthless atom in the universe, its proper attraction all gone, its destinies and its whole future nothing but darkness, desolation, and despair. A man with no sense of religious duty is he whom the Scriptures describe in such terse and terrific language, as *living without God in the world*. Such a man is out of his proper being; out of the circle of all his duties; out of the circle of all his happiness; away, far, far away from the purposes of his creation. A man, a true man, with all his proper sentiments and sensibilities alive in him, in this state of existence, must have something to believe and something to hope for, or else, as life is advancing to its close, all is heart-sinking and oppressive.”

Mr. WEBSTER seemed at times to be listening to the same deep utterances, when absorbed in the view of some

scene of grandeur in the created universe ; and indeed, the works of GOD as well as his word, are adapted to fill a thoughtful sober mind with reverential awe, as a reflection of the glory of him who created them. They are adapted to produce a strong sense of the creature's insignificance as well as the Creator's glory, and at the same time to deepen the sense of individual responsibility beneath the all-penetrating eye of GOD.

" When I consider the heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained, what is man, that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man, that Thou visitest him ! " These were the words with which the great departed statesman of our country looked up, one starry night, into the heavens, and in a deep and solemn tone uttered his feelings. He was himself an eminent example of the elevating and disciplinary power of GOD's works, as well as his Word, over the greatest minds that have ever inhabited our world. We love to think of his grand, unaffected, and pure appreciation of all that was sublime in nature ; the simplest, homeliest objects too, and employments of the rural world, delighted him. But many have had *that* appreciation, with nothing of his great sense of the glory of Divine Truth ; his deep reverence for which, and his recognition of its doctrines as presenting, in CHRIST, the only stay and salvation of the soul, afford an example worthy to be regarded by all intelligent and thoughtful men. The foundations of his great intellect seemed laid in the truths of God's word, even as the granite mountains of New England are rooted in the earth's primordial foundations. Yea, at times, it almost seemed as if the natural orbit of his mind carried him on a vast sweep through the expanse of spiritual truth, as an



orb of heaven rolls in the surrounding ether. When such a mind enters the invisible world, it is a mighty and solemn spectacle. The curtain, dark and impenetrable, that separates existence here from life there, almost visibly opens, for one moment, and the being passes and disappears forever. An *immortal* being, for a moment he is here, in a moment he is gone, and the most penetrating mind can gain no more sign of his continued experience, than the image of an arrow can be traced in the air that it has cleaved upon its passage. No mortal eye may follow, no imagination can conceive, the realities of glory or of gloom that burst upon the soul. One thing we believe, they are an experience as instantaneous as its transition from the body. When the soul passes from its earthly tabernacle, it is in the immediate presence of its Maker ; "the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit unto God who gave it." And though to the dwelling-place of God there be distance in space so immeasurable, and worlds to pass so innumerable, yet did the LORD of infinitude declare to a penitent believing soul, "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

There is a majestic and solemn impression from the death of Mr. WEBSTER, such as we have never known connected with the death of any other public man. A vast, capacious mind has passed away, perhaps the greatest intellect at this day upon our globe. There is unutterable solemnity in that awakening, just before the moment of death, with the exclamation, *I still live!* Was there in the unuttered consciousness, a remembrance of those glorious words of CHRIST, " He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall live ; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die !" What if, when the soul passed,



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we could hear from the other side, I STILL LIVE! But no tone of spirit has ever come from that world to this. No funeral bell that tolls there is ever heard here, nor any shout of welcome to the world of glory, though the hallelujah were enough to shake the concave of the universe, even as there is joy in all heaven over one sinner that repenteth. There, as here, the voice of true life, of life victorious over death, is this, "Nevertheless I live; yet not I, but CHRIST liveth in me!" And though there could be a soul in mortal frame upon our globe so prodigious as to unite the mental capacities of all the human race in one vast intellect, yet, even for such a mind there could be no true life but in CHRIST, no scaling of the heavens by intellectual power, no possible salvation but in CHRIST, and him crucified. The mightier the intelligence, the mightier the guilt and ruin, if the soul have not come to God in humble penitence and faith through him. And it is a thought of ineffable solemnity, that a time will come, when by the progression of ages, the poorest and most contracted intellect will have reached, in the expansion of eternity, a vastness of conception, a power of intuition, a breadth of knowledge, and an experience of suffering or bliss greater than could be measured by the present united intelligence and capacity of all mankind. When this starry universe hath passed away, every soul will still live, embodying an expression or experience of greater worth and costliness than the preciousness and glory of all material worlds.

There is a present foreknowledge and brooding sense of these truths, in the inmost consciousness of all mankind. It is manifested in the care with which a nation stops to listen, when it feels in its heart the tread of a great spirit on the confines of eternity, when, indeed, the greatest of



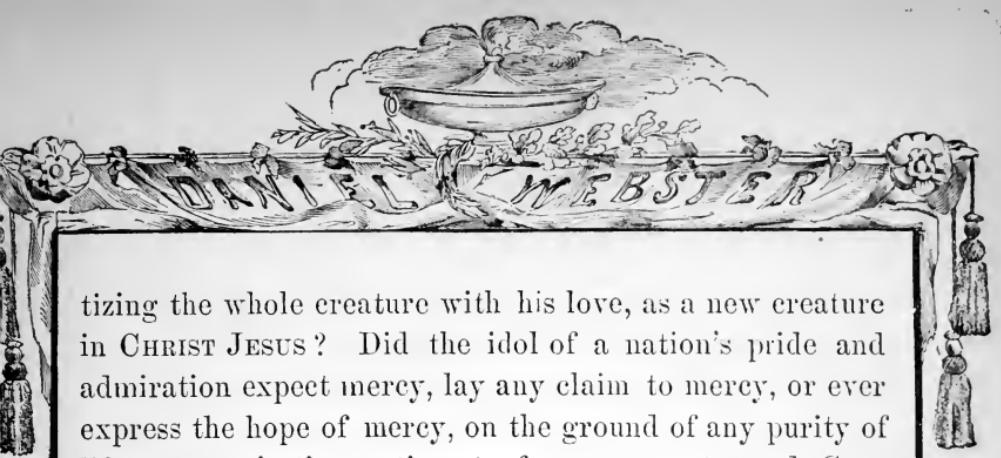
its minds is drawing sensibly near to the portals of the grave. By the power of intense uninterrupted sympathy, and telegraphic simultaneousness and swiftness of intelligence, a nation was gathered in almost breathless expectation at Mr. WEBSTER's dying bed. And what, amid the sense of impending grief and loss immeasurable, was the over-mastering care, the all-controlling question, but only this. In what state, and with what countenance could he meet the King of Terrors! With what experience did this magnificently endowed mind find itself nearing the world of judgment? In very truth, a moral lesson, great and powerful, is conveyed with amazing solemnity and weight, in the fact of the universal anxiety to know how such a man died, whether he were prepared, whether he were a Christian, whether he went through the Valley of the Shadow of Death leaning on the rod and the staff of the Great Shepherd. Somehow or other, in the exit of such a mind, there is an impression of the value of the soul; and the exceeding great and infinite importance of its preparation for a life beyond the grave, far deeper than is made in the passage of a multitude of ordinary men. And when such a mind is passing, it seems to tell, as never was told before, the insignificance of all worldly cares, all earthly distinctions. The only thought of anxiety and interest is the approaching meeting with a holy God. And why such anxiety, such solemnity, such awe? Because, the whole world feel, looking into the invisible world, or waiting the disappearance of a giant intellect beneath its portals, that the soul passes to a reckoning for eternity, and that the existence there entered on is, according to the character here developed, a retribution of eternal happiness or endless woe. As a



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man soweth, so also shall he reap. "He that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption. He that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting." And nothing but the law of the Spirit of life in CHRIST JESUS can set a man free from the law of sin and of death.

There is also manifest in such a case the impression, the deep consciousness, produced by a wide spread knowledge of the Gospel, in its assured and indefatigable meaning, that not to the external life merely, not to the tenor of an outward morality, does the eye of the Omniscient look for the adjustment of the grand reckoning, and the determination to what class of spirits the individual belongs, and what world of retribution he shall inherit, but to the posture and character of the soul in its affections toward GOD, to the relation which it has assumed in reference to the great salvation provided and offered to CHRIST, to the nature of the reliance and hope maintained by the individual; and, in one case at least, adopted even in the last hour. *I, the LORD, search the HEART.* Is there reliance on a Savior *there*? Was the soul resting upon CHRIST? Had it sought and found in him that mercy which is in him alone, and which must be sought this side the grave, or is never found? Did it look to the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world? Did the greatest intelligence, the most commanding mind, the man of purest imagination, brightest genius, and most virtuous life, come like the broken-hearted publican, God be merciful to me a sinner? Did he stand loftily upon a general indefinite reception and belief of Christianity, or was his guilty soul laid hold upon by the truth, as the truth is in JESUS, manifesting itself the power of GOD unto Salvation, bringing the heart to the fountain of a Savior's blood, and bap-



tizing the whole creature with his love, as a new creature in CHRIST JESUS ? Did the idol of a nation's pride and admiration expect mercy, lay any claim to mercy, or ever express the hope of mercy, on the ground of any purity of life, any majestic sentiment of reverence toward GOD, any sublimity of patriotism, any grandeur of moral or intellectual endowment, or experience any integrity of dealing, any amiableness, or benevolence of nature and of life ? If he did, so did not the great intellectual and moral Apostle, by whom GOD wrote the Epistle to the Philippians, the most prominent, sanctified, instructed and inspired model and example of religious faith in the New Testament, the record of whose experience in regard to his own unrivalled accomplishments and virtues runs thus ; those things that were gave to me I counted lost for CHRIST, and all things loss, for the excellence of the knowledge of CHRIST JESUS my LORD. All that was his own he beat down, and even his very intellectual capacities he undervalued, considered with reference to self, or any possible or imagined merit in them, and as a guilty, wretched, dying soul, clung only to the love of JESUS. Now that is the question put by the universal anxious heart in regard to every soul, commanding attention and homage by its powers, and attracting a breathless watch of solemn, unuttered thought over the dying bed : Did he also thus take refuge in CHRIST ? Did he, like the great Apostle to the Gentiles, and in obedience to the divine instruction and command through him, trust only in the merits and righteousness of the Son of GOD, in the efficacy of his death, in the power of his cleansing blood, in the justifying and forgiving grace of GOD through him ? Did he come crying, " This is a faithful saying, and worthy of

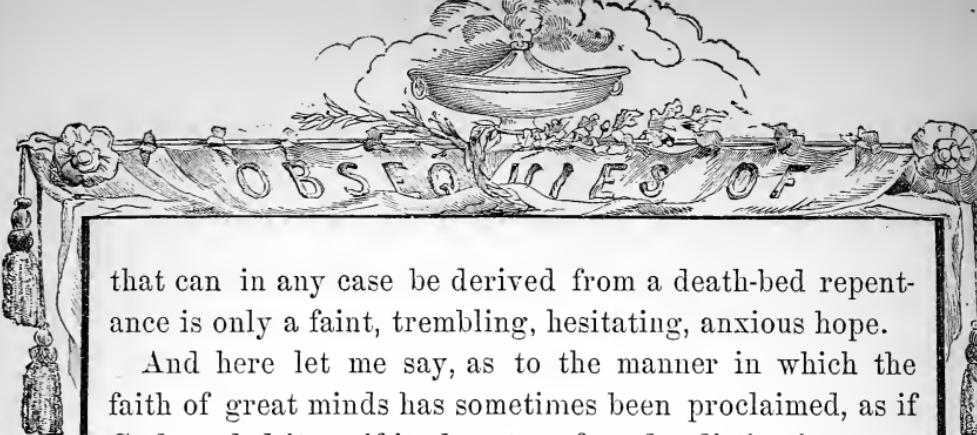
## OBSEQUIES OF

all acceptance, that CHRIST JESUS came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief ?" Did he come, dreaming to enter heaven by an indefinite faith, with the boast of having nothing technical in it, and no particular theology; or did he come by a *very* particular theology, that of CHRIST and him crucified ? Did he come, not merely with reference for the dread majesty and glorious word of GOD, and not merely relying in general upon GOD's mercy; but, did he come in God's only and appointed way ? For there is one well-known, appointed way, and only one, unto salvation, and this, the whole world, under the pressure and light of the Gospel, feels; one name, and only one, under heaven, given among men, whereby we can be saved. And it is not to the calm indifference, or majestic composure, or freedom from trepidation, with which a soul may advance toward the grave, that the heart and conscience of the world look for assurance, unless they see and know such firmness to be derived from the assurance of the Gospel, and from the presence of CHRIST. The world know and feel that otherwise, not to be afraid of death is a mark of stupidity or fool-hardiness, or utter debasement of a man's immortal nature in sin, or sacredness of conscience, judicial and irremediable; all men feel that it is no mark of intellectual greatness so to die as a fool dieth, or to have no bands in one's death ; or like a pagan philosopher, to wrap one's robe about him, and in the face of the blackness of darkness forever, lie down as to pleasant dreams. Moreover, it is not to any mere general, expressed or implied belief in Christianity, or patronage of its truth, that men look for the assurance of a man's salvation, unless there be the known experience of the regenerating grace of GOD along with it; but to an anchorage of the soul, technically and absolutely in CHRIST,



where the Gospel plainly shows that it must be anchored, or be lost; to a deliberate, earnest, intelligent, humble faith in the LORD JESUS, as the sinner's only refuge. There we most earnestly and ardently hope that Mr. WEBSTER sought and found mercy; there, in the bosom of a Savior's love; that the great departed patriot and statesman, so profoundly venerated and lamented, so deeply beloved, and so wondered at, almost of all mankind, for his capacious faculties, became there a converted little child, a child-like nature, renewed and illuminated by Divine Grace. And we thank GOD for any ground to believe, any substantial evidence, that so lighted and comforted, he passed through the dark valley of the Shadow of Death. We fervently thank GOD for any evidence vouchsafed, and for every increase of that evidence, that he did not permit a mind so transcendently endowed, a mind of such clear conviction of heaven's truth, and brought so near to the gate of heaven's glory, to be lost.

But there is our only hope; not in any righteousness of life; one sin would drag an angel down, and an angel's holiness could not atone for one sin. The greatest sinner may be just as easily forgiven as the smallest, for CHRIST's sake, but only thus. Sin levels us all to the same condition of hopelessness and helplessness, save only in CHRIST. The grandest, most gigantic intellects and hearts, alike with the most despised publicans and harlots, must be converted, and become like little children, or they shall in nowise enter into the kingdom of heaven. And disastrous indeed would be the impression from a great man's dying moments, from a death-bed penitence and prayer, if it made men feel that they could safely defer their religion to the last hour, and then enter heaven by the profession of their faith in Christianity. The greatest assurance

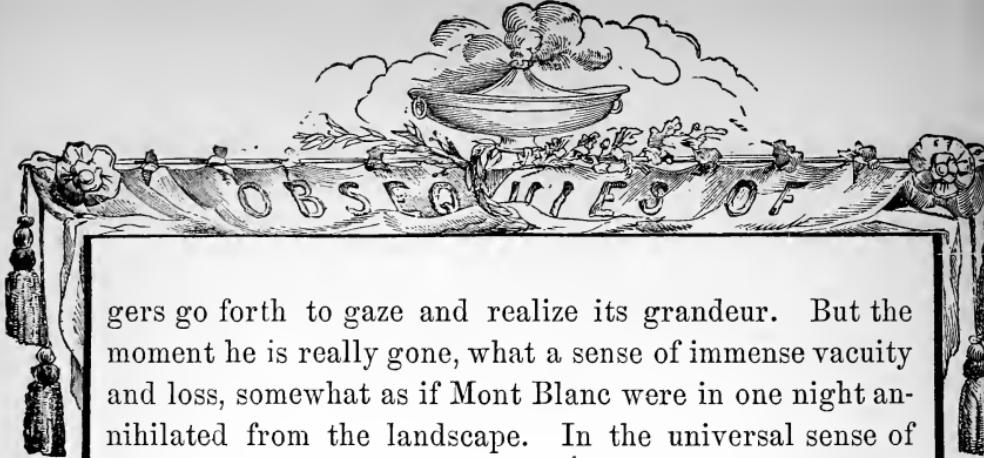


that can in any case be derived from a death-bed repentance is only a faint, trembling, hesitating, anxious hope.

And here let me say, as to the manner in which the faith of great minds has sometimes been proclaimed, as if God needed it, as if it almost conferred a distinction upon Jehovah—it is the mark of a soul that has not itself bowed at the foot of the cross, or seen and reverenced the dread and holy majesty of the Godhead, so to regard the homage of any created intellect. For it to be paid is simple necessity and duty; for it not to be paid is infinite guilt, madness and misery. And yet, the illustrious exceptions to our text are too often spoken of, even by Christians, as if they conferred an honor on Christianity. Thus, we not unfrequently hear Sir ISAAC NEWTON referred to in such a manner, that a being ignorant of man's depraved and ruined condition, and of the nature of the provision made for his recovery in the Gospel, instead of regarding NEWTON's religious belief as the only element of true greatness in his character, its only preserving element, the element without which he would have been fit only for perdition, would be very likely to conceive of Christianity as some despised and feeble thing, which the philosopher had generously condescended to take under his patronage, and give to it the sanction of his great philosophic name. Alas! the great and learned of this world too often have considered it one mark of a strong mind to be destitute of religion, and sincere piety has been with them the subject of contempt. And with all their boasted strength of mind, they have exhibited such pitiful weakness, and want of moral courage, that of any personal recognition of the preciousness of JESUS, or any manifestation of attachment to him, or any thing like contrition and

tenderness of conscience in the sight of GOD, they would have been ashamed and mortified in the presence of their fellow-sinners. Never, since the mind of WEBSTER was first trained in the catechism of Divine Truth, did he ever seem to have any sympathy with such infidel and pitiful weakness. He fully recognized the claims of GOD. It was the greatest glory of his intellect so to recognize them. His firm belief in Divine revelation, his familiarity with the Bible, his love and his study of it, are an impressive testimony to young men, in the presence of the sneering infidel spirit they are so likely to encounter, where jests upon Divine things are fashionable—an impressive testimony from confessedly the vastest intelligence of this age that the grander the mind of the observer, the deeper and more profound will be its conviction of Divine Truth, and its sensibility to the manifestation, in it, of the Divine glory. Such a mind as WEBSTER's could not but believe. Its intuitions of truth, its native perception and sense of the overpowering internal evidence of the presence and spirit of GOD in the Scriptures, were too much like open sight to be doubted—too vivid and potential to be resisted. And Mr. WEBSTER was characterized by a deep, grave tenderness of sympathy and sensibility—an oceanic profoundness of the affections as well as of thought—so that the pathos of the Scriptures, as well as their infinite reach of sublimity in incomprehensible directions of celestial wisdom, could be appreciated by him.

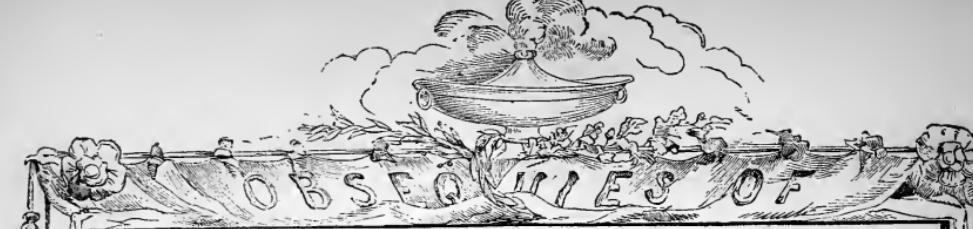
The sudden withdrawal of his mind from its accustomed sphere in this world, is like the shadow of a mighty eclipse. It had so long filled that sphere, in the sight of all the nation, that it had become like the fixture of a great mountain, so constant and familiar, that only stran-



gers go forth to gaze and realize its grandeur. But the moment he is really gone, what a sense of immense vacuity and loss, somewhat as if Mont Blanc were in one night annihilated from the landscape. In the universal sense of this national bereavement there is a great lesson. We never rightly value great and leading minds, till they are passed from us. Then indeed the nation begins to feel the preciousness of such a boon, by its withdrawal. We take our note of mind, in some cases, more by its loss than its presence. And there are not wanting those, so violent and bitter is party-spirit, and regardless of all the sanctities of life and truth, who will belie and vilify, for partisan purposes, the noblest and most honorable men. The very treasures of our country's pride, the reputations, whose greatness is inextricably interwoven with the brightest permanent tissue of historic national glory, are thrown into the mud, and trampled beneath the swinish hoof of envy, malice, and slander. But the moment a truly great man is gone, how the majesty of his greatness rises on the universal consciousness, and envy sickens and dies, and slander is buried in the hole of its own venom. Men begin to feel that God's hand may, in these repeated and great rebukes, be laid on us in anger. For indeed God has of old threatened punishment to a nation in this very form, when it proves unmindful of his will, and ungrateful of his mercies. "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils, for wherein is he to be accounted of? For, behold! the LORD, the LORD of Hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water; the mighty man and the man of war, the judge and the prophet, and the prudent and the ancient, the captain of

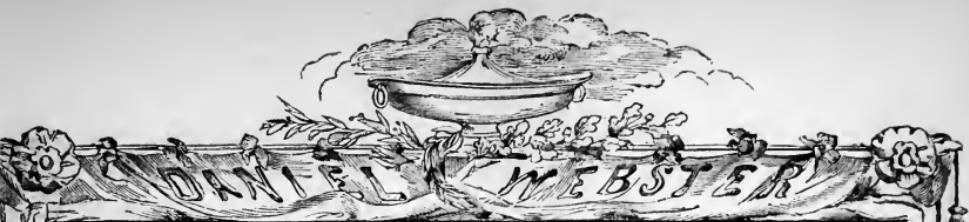


fifty and the honorable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor; the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honorable." When God does this in judgment, what judgment can be more terrible? When God takes away a consummate statesman, counsellor and eloquent orator like WEBSTER, how immense, how irreparable the loss! I say irreparable; for it takes a half century to rear such greatness to its fullness of command and power, even when the vast original mind is given; and experience has proved that it is God's will to scatter such minds only over ages. When can men hope to look upon his like again? I speak it in no vain admiration of mere intellect, but in the consideration of God's beneficence in such a gift, when I say that to hear such a man's grand public utterance were worth a journey round the globe. And what a prodigious loss here when God resumes such a mind! It is not at all likely that he has any other such now in training, and we may greatly fear that the age of homeliness and simplicity, and the circumstances of toil and danger being over, under which such a mental and physical frame as WEBSTER'S was knit and indurated, the age of discipline, so near the second heroic period of our history being passed, under the influence of which the second race of great patriots rose up, there may be a dearth of great souls, and a prevalence of small ones. Moreover, the very danger to our institutions most imminent is hinted at in this passage of Scripture, that of an unprincipled multitude left to the lateral anarchy of their

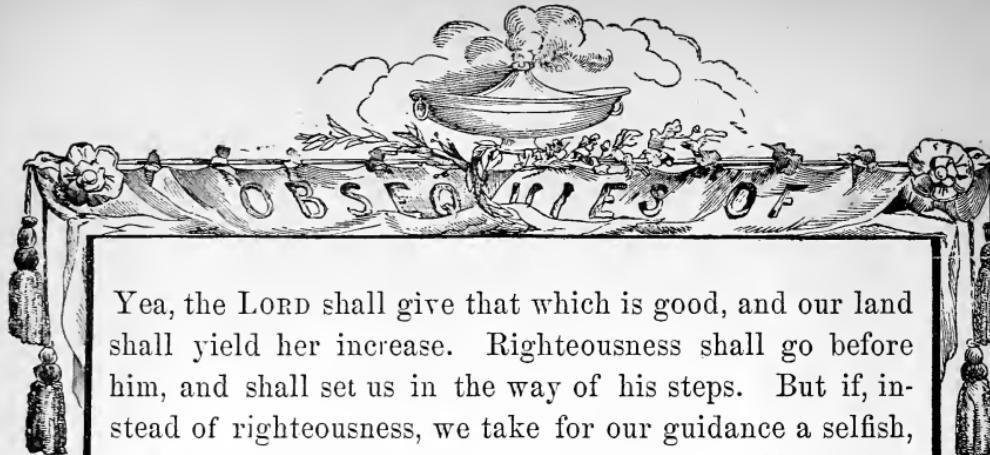


## OBSEQUIES OF

own oppression, choosing for their rulers only men who will flatter their base purposes, demagogues, who will suit and indulge their passions, and can be made their tools, and thus, at the sway of an imperious voting mob, measures may be carried without the shadow of right; and indeed, might itself may be boldly and successfully asserted as the only rule of justice. Now when God raises up a commanding mind, and gives it a wide, commanding influence, so that thousands and hundreds of thousands move at its leading, so that, indeed, the mind of a whole nation almost follows it, and hangs upon it, as the tidal wave of ocean hangs upon the moon, and rolls round with it; when God raises up such a mind as he did in the case of WASHINGTON, and keeps it right,—keeps it firm in integrity, undeviating in principle, incorruptible in patriotism, one such man may be a second father of his country; and what greater public gift does God ever bestow? And when such a planet, or any thing like such a planet, even a planet with incalculable aberrations, is taken from its sphere, if there be no bright orb hung up in its place, no new constellation rising where it blazed so long, and became the confidence of many hearts, and the wonder of all, what can be deemed of such a disaster but that it is a mighty rebuke and warning from the hand of God? Surely, it should lead us humbly to him, in more constant and earnest prayer, for our rulers, for our leading men in stations of responsibility and influence, and for God's gracious guidance of the people to right choices in their elections. Nothing can save us, if God do *not* guide us. Of what amazing importance are comprehensive, judicious, well-balanced minds at the head of the affairs of a nation so vast as ours, rising to such overwhelming power, be-



coming soon, of necessity, so complicated in her policy with other nations. When new paths have to be struck out, lines of policy determined by precedents, that must have an influence upon hundreds of millions of men to come, and upon the stability and prosperity of the nation, of what incalculable worth is a large and pure patriotism, an honorable mind in our public councils, a superiority to the tricks and spirit of intrigue, and an example of the possibility and nobleness of sincere and generous party difference. When GOD takes away such men, it is certainly a time of rebuke and affliction to the nation, and such bereavements may, unless GOD avert the evil, be followed by great hazard and damage. The loss of such a mind ought to awaken into earnest vividness and importunity the sense of our dependence upon GOD for our country's security and welfare. For not to ourselves alone can be restricted the results of our movements, our progress, our principles, our policy. The time has come when we are acting for the world, nor has any man any adequate view of the dependence of the world's future course upon our career. There is but one way in which we can be faithful to the world, and that is by being faithful to our GOD and Savior. There is but one thing that in the multitude and prevalence of smaller men can supply the loss of great guiding intellects, and that is, a sincere and firm regard to what is right and just. That is always plain, simple, easily understood. Great principles, rectitude and justice, GOD's truth and guidance, can keep us, when great men cannot. Righteousness, indeed, is the greatest and rarest of all greatness, and nothing else *can* keep us, if we let that go. Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.



Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good, and our land shall yield her increase. Righteousness shall go before him, and shall set us in the way of his steps. But if, instead of righteousness, we take for our guidance a selfish, grasping expediency, disregarding the claims of humanity, justice, and GOD's word, then are we destined to work out, for the good of GOD's universe by our own perdition, the mightiest of all demonstrations ever yet made on earth, that great numbers and riches of population, and great advancing knowledge and intelligence, and the utmost refinement in science and art, and freedom of the press, and a perfect equality of suffrage and of representation, and a degree of personal liberty unrivalled in the world, may only be the avenues of supremacy in national wickedness and national ruin. But if so, then will be brought to pass the prophetic language of MILTON, and we shall be seen, "as if GOD were weary of protecting us, to have passed through the fire, that we might perish in the smoke!"

The LORD GOD of our fathers, who hath hitherto kept and guided us, in infinite mercy preserve us from such ruin, and work out for us a complete national salvation !

The various sub-committees having completed their arrangements for celebrating the obsequies designed as an appropriate token of respect to the memory of the illustrious deceased, which were also intended to render to the citizens of this city an opportunity of manifesting their sympathy for the great and irreparable loss they and the whole country had sustained,—the Committee on Programme, assisted by the Grand Marshal, presented the following

THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

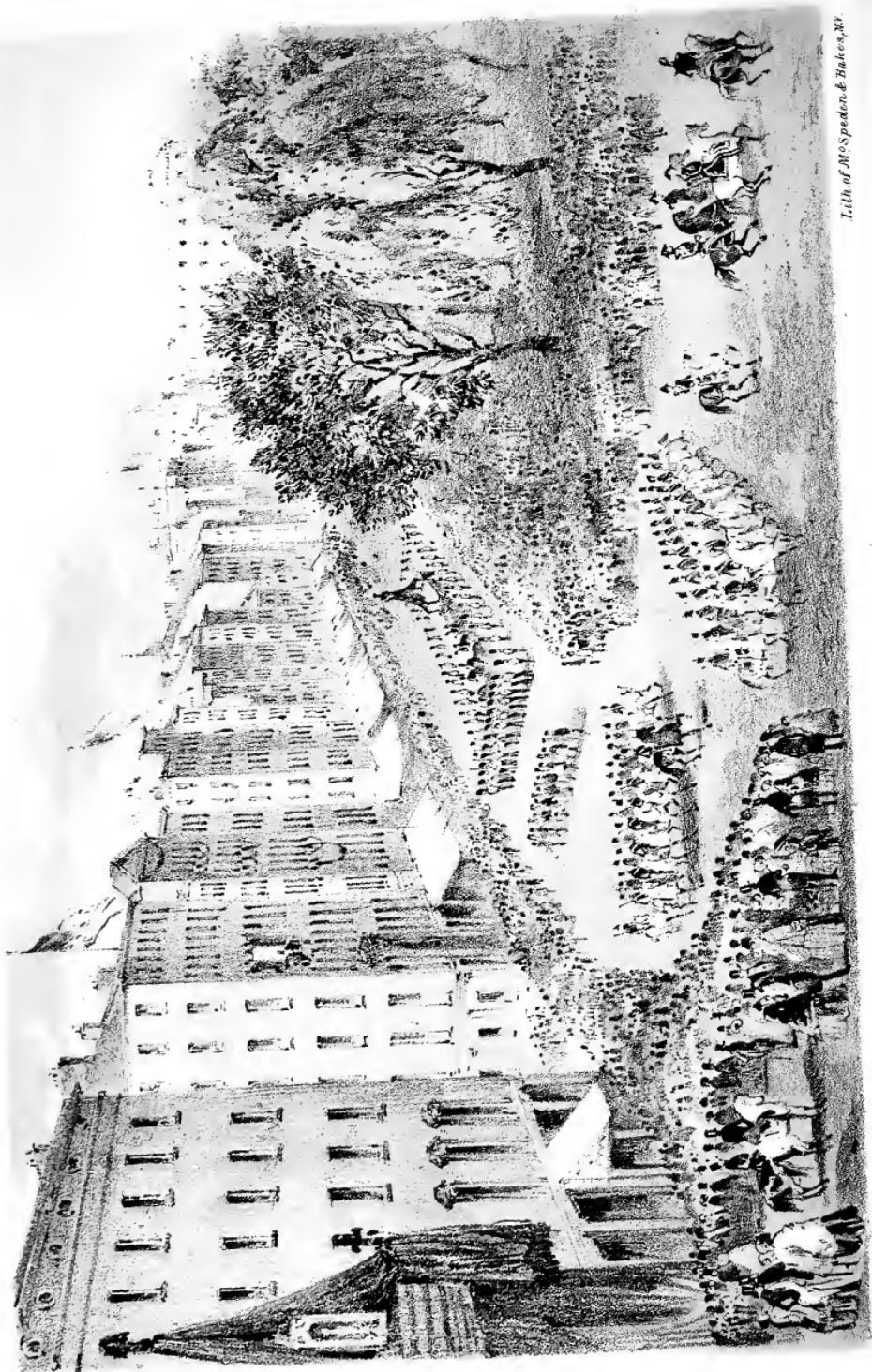
ASTOR, LENORE AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

R

L

BROADWAY AT THE ASTOR HOUSE.

Lith. of McSpedon & Baker, N.Y.



PROGRAMME OF ARRANGEMENTS

FOR THE

*Funeral Ceremonies*

IN HONOR OF THE LATE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER,

On Tuesday, November 16, 1852.

The Joint Committee, appointed by the Common Council of the city of New York, to make the necessary arrangements for solemnizing the obsequies of the late Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, have adopted the following Programme of Arrangements, for the occasion.

COLONEL LINUS W. STEVENS

HAS BEEN UNANIMOUSLY SELECTED AS THE

Grand Marshal of the Day,

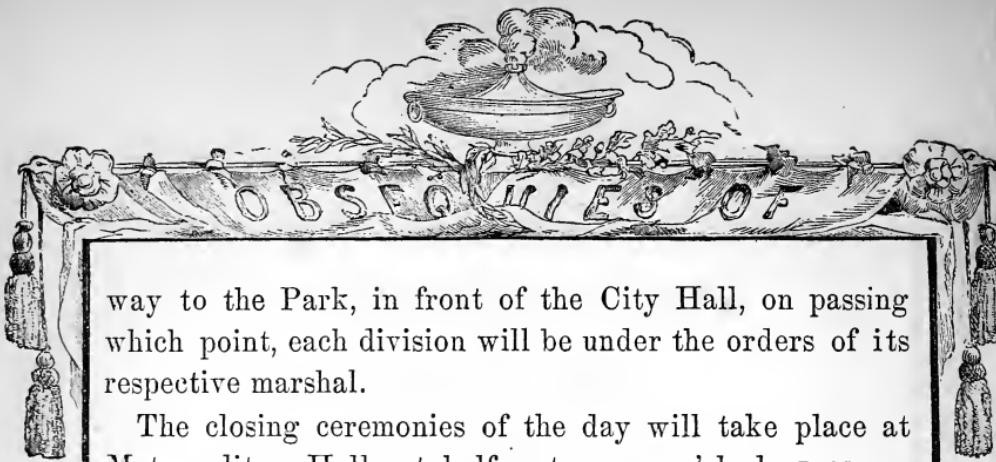
AND THE FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE BEEN NAMED, AND WILL ACT AS HIS

AIDS.

GEN. WM. L. MORRIS.  
" F. E. MATHER,  
COL. JOHN W. AVERY,  
" W. R. VERMILYE,  
" W. DODGE,  
" R. M. HOE,  
" JOHN W. STILES,  
" A. B. BRINKERHOFF,  
" J. C. BURNHAM,  
MAJ. ROBERT B. BOYD,  
" JAMES CONNER,  
HENRY B. COOK, Esq.,  
S. S. WARD, Esq.,  
JOHN T. OGDEN, Esq.,  
WM. S. MORRIS, Jr., Esq.,

ROBERT SMITH, Esq.,  
ELIJAH F. PURDY, Esq.,  
FREEMAN CAMPBELL, Esq.,  
SAMUEL OSGOOD, Esq.,  
RICHARD SCOTT, Esq.,  
A. P. PENTZ, Esq.,  
JAMES R. WALTER, Esq.,  
GEO. A. BUCKINGHAM, Esq.,  
CHESTER DRIGGS, Esq.,  
WM. B. DINSMORE, Esq.,  
WM. T. CHILD, Esq.,  
JOHN H. WHITE, Esq.,  
JOHN A. BUNTING, Esq.,  
WALTER E. HARDING, Esq.,  
ZOPHAR MILLS, Esq.

The procession will move from the Park, at 1 o'clock, P. M., precisely, and will proceed down Broadway, around the Park to Chatham street, through Chatham street to the Bowery, up the Bowery and Fourth avenue to Astor place, through Astor place to Broadway, and down Broad-



way to the Park, in front of the City Hall, on passing which point, each division will be under the orders of its respective marshal.

The closing ceremonies of the day will take place at Metropolitan Hall, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M., as follows :

1. Prayer by the Rev. EDWARD LATHROP.
2. Funeral Dirge by DODWORTH'S Band.
3. Funeral Oration by JAMES T. BRADY, Esq.
4. Benediction by the Right Rev. Bishop WAINWRIGHT.

The arrangements of the day will be under the command of the Grand Marshal.

The several persons having charge of the church and fire alarm bells in the city, are requested to cause the same to be tolled, from the hour of 1 o'clock, P. M., until the close of the procession.

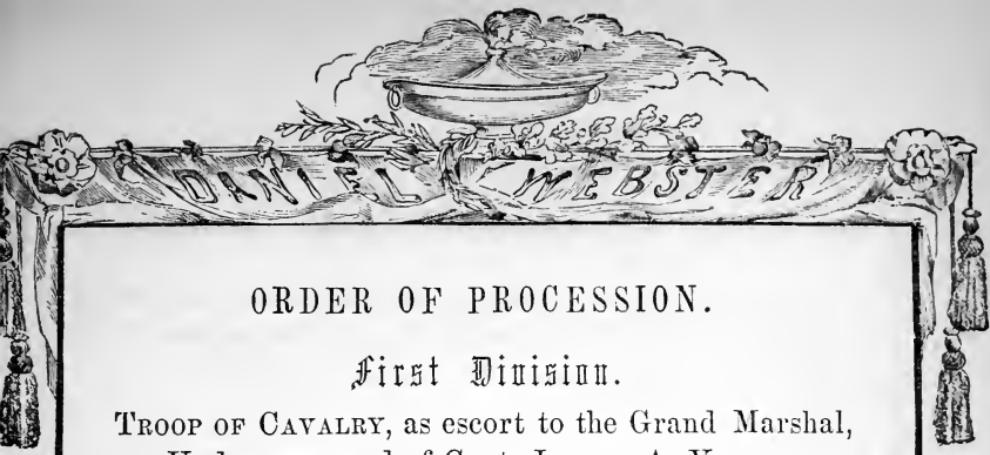
The owners and masters of vessels in the harbor, and the proprietors of the various public buildings in the city, are requested to display their colors at half mast, from sunrise until sunset.

It is also respectfully requested that our fellow-citizens close their several places of business during the moving of the procession.

They are also requested to wear the usual badge of mourning on the left arm.

The several orders, societies, associations, trades, and other bodies, are requested to assemble at such places as they may respectively select, and repair to the places of rendezvous, by 12 o'clock, M.

The different divisions, in the following programme, will be designated by a white banner, with the appropriate number of each in black.



## ORDER OF PROCESSION.

### First Division.

TROOP OF CAVALRY, as escort to the Grand Marshal,  
Under command of Capt. JOSHUA A. VARIAN.

Ban'd.

COLONEL LINUS W. STEVENS,  
GRAND MARSHAL.

Col. JOHN W. AVERY,	Col. W. R. VERMILYE,
SAMUEL OSGOOD, Esq.,	Major R. B. BOYD,
J. R. WALTER, Esq.,	FREEMAN CAMPBELL, Esq.,
Col. WILLIAM DODGE,	
SPECIAL AIDS.	

Ban'd.

First Division, New York State Militia.

Under the command of  
MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES W. SANDFORD,  
As a military escort, in reverse order, as follows :

FOURTH BRIGADE,  
Commanded by Brigadier General JOHN EWEN,

CONSISTING OF

SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT,  
Commanded by COL. C. S. ROE.

Ban'd.

TWELFTH REGIMENT,  
Commanded by COL. HENRY G. STEBBINS.

Ban'd.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT,  
Commanded by LIEUT. COL. WATERHOUSE.

# OBSEQUIES OF

Ban'd.

## TENTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. WILLIAM HALSEY.

Ban'd.

## THIRD BRIGADE,

Commanded by Brigadier General WILLIAM HALL,

CONSISTING OF

### NINTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. B. C. FERRIS.

Ban'd.

### EIGHTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. T. F. DEVOE.

Ban'd.

### SEVENTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. ABRAM DURYEA.

Ban'd.

## SECOND BRIGADE,

Commanded by Brigadier General GEORGE P. MORRIS,

CONSISTING OF

### SIXTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. THOS. F. PEERS.

Ban'd.

### FIFTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. ANDREW WARNER.

Ban'd.

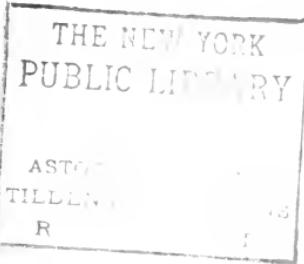
### FOURTH REGIMENT,

Commanded by Col. CHARLES YATES.

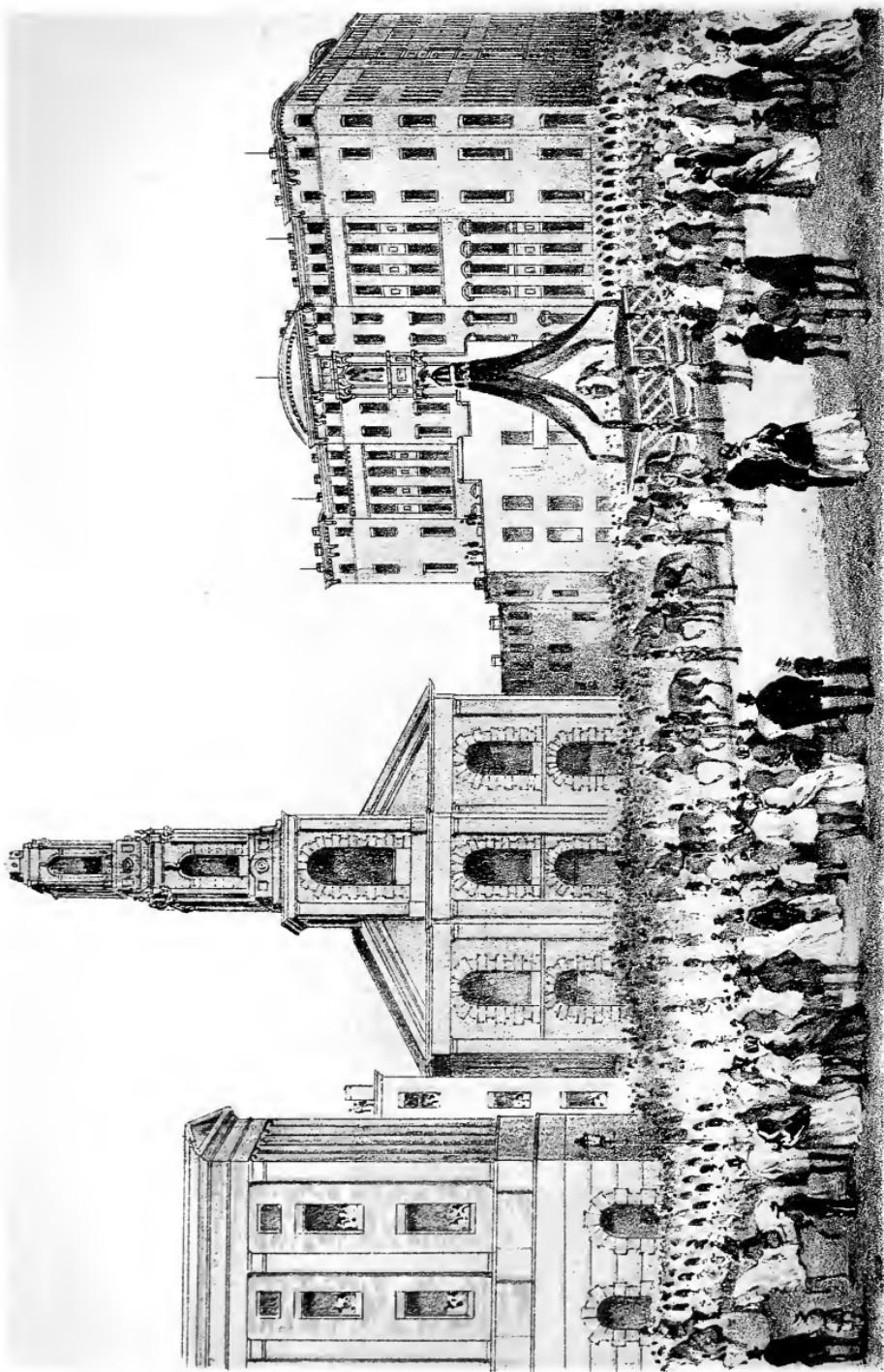
Ban'd.

## FIRST BRIGADE,

Commanded by Brigadier General CHARLES B. SPICER,



ASTOR PLACE.



Lith. of M. Spedding & Peacock.



# DANIEL WEBSTER

CONSISTING OF  
SEVENTY-SECOND REGIMENT,  
Commanded by Col. A. S. VOSBURG.

B a n d .

THIRD REGIMENT,  
Commanded by Lieut. Col. MENCK.

B a n d .

SECOND REGIMENT,  
Commanded by Col. JOHN A. BOGERT.

B a n d .

FIRST REGIMENT,  
Commanded by Col. J. B. RYER.

Second Division.

Marshal,  
Gen. WILLIAM L. MORRIS.

Aids.

Col. R. M. HOE, WILLIAM S. MORRIS, Jr. Esq.,  
GEORGE A. BUCKINGHAM, Esq.

B a n d .

OFFICIATING CLERGYMEN.

ORATOR OF THE DAY.

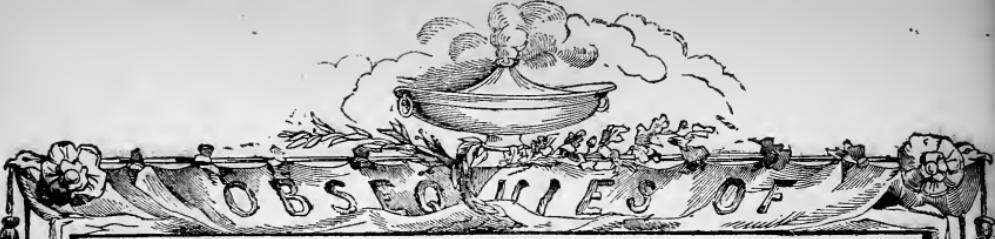
Lafayette Guards

CAPT. FRENCH,  
AS A  
GUARD OF HONOR.



Lafayette Fusiliers,

CAPT. FRENCH,  
AS A  
GUARD OF HONOR.



*The following Pall-Bearers, thirty-one in number, being the number of States in the Union:*

RICHARD T. MULLIGAN,	GENERAL STRIKER,
GEORGE A. WOOD,	PHILO V. BEEBE,
CHARLES A. STETSON,	CHARLES G. STOPPANI,
JOSEPH N. LORD,	D. A. CUSHMAN,
JOHN D. KATING,	FRANKLIN COOLEY,
DANIEL LORD,	THEODORUS VANTINE,
JAMES LYNCH,	DOCTOR DRAKE,
JACOB A. WESTERVELT,	WILLIAM SMITH,
RICHARD TWEED,	ANDREW MILLS,
ANTHONY COMPTON,	THOMAS O'CONOR.
SYLVANUS GEDNEY,	JOHN DIMON,
NATHAN PECK,	ADAM BLACKLEDGE,
THOMAS JEREMIAH,	HIRAM KETCHUM,
FREDERICK R. LEE,	JOHN E. ROSS,
JACOB AIMS,	JOHN C. GREEN,
Gen. FREDERICK PENTZ,	Wm. F. HAVEMEYER.

Mayors of New York, Brooklyn, Williamsburgh, Jersey City and Newark.

The Common Councils of the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Williamsburgh, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson and adjoining cities,  
in the following order :

The Board of Aldermen,  
Preceded by their Sergeant-at-Arms, and headed by their President.

The Board of Assistant Aldermen,  
Preceded by their Sergeant-at-Arms, and headed by their President.

Officers of both Boards.



Committee of the Common Council of the City of  
Philadelphia.

Common Council of the City of Brooklyn.

Officers of the Common Council of the City of Brooklyn.  
Mayor and Common Council of the City of Williamsburgh,  
with their officers.

The Common Council of Jersey City, with their Clerks,  
Marshal, and others.

The Common Council of the City of Newark, with their  
Clerk and other officers.

Ex-Presidents of the United States.

His Excellency Governor Hunt and Suite.

Heads of Departments of the State.

Senate and Assembly of the State of New York.

Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of  
the United States.

Major-General JOHN E. WOOL, and Suite, commanding the  
Eastern Division of the United States Army.

Officers of the Army of the United States.

Commodore Charles Boorman, Commander of the Navy  
Yard and Station of New York, with the Officers  
of the Navy of the United States, and  
Civic Officers of the Navy Yard.

New York State Society of the Cincinnati.

### Third Division.

Marshal,

COL. JOHN W. STILES.

Aids.

Col. A. B. BRINKERHOFF,	Capt. J. T. OGDEN,
Wm. B. DINSMORE, Esq.,	ZOPHAR MILLS, Esq.

Bands.

Ex-Members of Congress and of the State Legislature.

**OBSEQUIES OF**

Ex-Mayors, ex-Aldermen and Assistants, of the cities of  
New York, Brooklyn, and other cities.

Heads of Departments and Officers of the City Government.  
Foreign Ministers and Consuls.

Judges of the United States, State and City Courts.

District Attorney. Members of the Bar.

Members of the Press.

Sheriff, Under-Sheriff and Deputies of the City of  
New York.

Register, County Clerk and Coroners of the City of New  
York, with their officers.

Police Magistrates, with staves.

Marshal of the United States for the Southern District of  
New York, with his Deputies and other Officers.

United States District Attorney, Collector of the Port of  
New York, with the Clerks and other Officers of  
his Department, Surveyor, Naval Officer,  
and other officers connected  
with their Departments.

Postmaster of the City of New York, with his Secretary,  
Assistant and Clerks.

Board of Education of the city of New York, preceded  
by its President and Clerk.

President, Trustees, Faculty and Students of  
Columbia College.

President, Council, Faculty and Students of the University  
of New York.

College of Physicians and Surgeons.  
Hose and Fire Companies.

#### *Fourth Division.*

Marshal,  
GEN. F. E. MATHER.



Aids.

Col. J. C. BURNHAM, Maj. JAMES CONNOR,  
WALTER E. HARDING, Esq.

Ban $\ddot{\text{a}}$ .

New England Society.

New York Academy of Medicine.

New York Medical Society and Physicians and Students.

Teachers and Pupils of Grammar School of  
Columbia College and University.

Professors of the Free Academy, and Pupils of the same.

College of Pharmacy.

New York Historical Society.

Irving Literary Union.

United States Naval Lyceum.

National Academy of Design.

Engineers' Institute.

Chamber of Commerce.

General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the  
city of New York.

American Institute.

Mechanics' Institute, Officers and Members.

The several Printers' Societies of the City of New York.

Board of Trade.

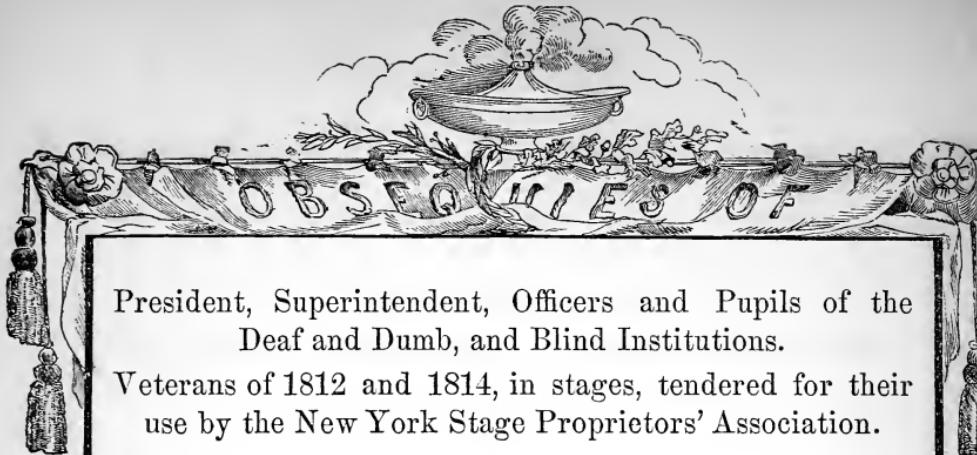
Masters, Wardens and Harbor Masters of the  
Port of New York.

Pilots of the Port of New York.

Members of the Industrial Congress.

Teachers' Association.

Teachers and Pupils of the several Public, Ward and  
Private Schools.



President, Superintendent, Officers and Pupils of the  
Deaf and Dumb, and Blind Institutions.

Veterans of 1812 and 1814, in stages, tendered for their  
use by the New York Stage Proprietors' Association.

### Fifth Division.

Ban'd.

Marshal.

ROBERT SMITH, Esq.

Aids.

JOHN A. BUNTING, Esq.,

HENRY B. COOK, Esq.

Young Men's Whig General  
Committee.

Democratic Republican Gen-  
eral Committee.

Marshal.

ELIJAH F. PURDY, Esq.

Aids.

ADAM P. PENTZ, Esq.,

SYLVANUS S. WARD, Esq.

Young Men's Democratic  
Rep. General Committee.

Democratic Whig General  
Committee.

Society of Tammany, or Columbian Order.

Various Political Ward Associations of the city of  
New York.

Various Political Associations of the adjoining  
cities and towns.

### Sixth Division.

Marshal.

WM. T. CHILD, Esq.

Aids.

CHESTER DRIGGS, JOHN H. WHITE,  
RICHARD SCOTT.

Ban'd.

Order of United Americans.



## DANIEL WEBSTER

### ORDER OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The Societies, Associations and Trades are requested to appear in the order prescribed, and to walk six abreast.

Bands will play Funeral Dirges in *common* time.

Such societies and associations as have not yet reported will be assigned places in the order in which they shall report themselves to the Grand Marshal.

No banner bearing political devices or inscriptions will be admitted in the procession.

The First Division of New York State Militia, and the civic societies, will assemble at twelve o'clock, precisely, at the following places, preparatory to being brought into column:

The Division of Militia in Broadway, left resting on Chambers street.

Officiating Clergymen, Orator of the Day, the Clergy and Pall-Bearers, in the Governor's room.

Mayors of the several cities, and ex-Presidents, Foreign Ministers and Consuls, in the Mayor's office.

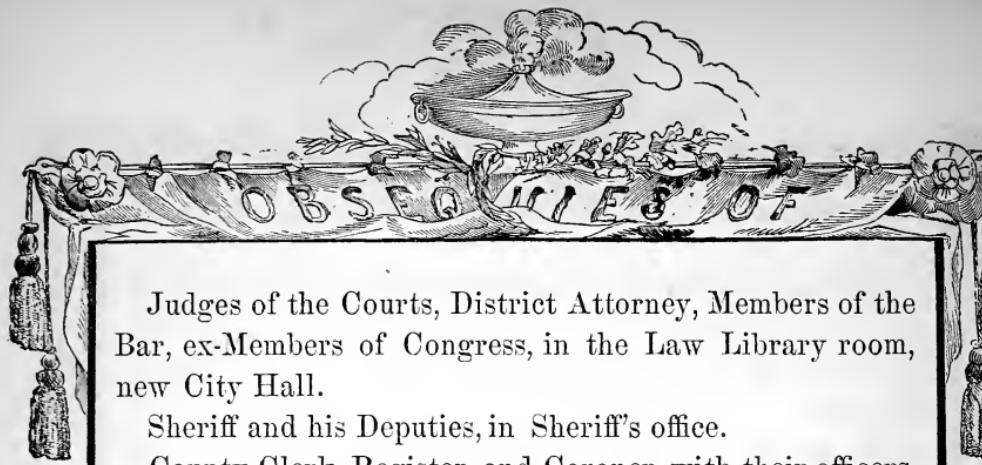
Common Councils of New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Newark, Williamsburgh, and the Trustees of the villages of Hoboken and Jamaica, together with their officers, in room No. 8, City Hall.

Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, Heads of Departments, Members of the Senate and Assembly, Senators and Members of Congress of the U. States, in the Governor's room.

Society of Cincinnati, Revolutionary Soldiers, ex-Mayors, ex-Members of the Common Council, and Heads of Departments of the City Government, in the Governor's room.

Officers of the Army and Navy, in the Keeper's room, City Hall.

Veterans of 1812 and 1814, in stages, in Murray street.



Judges of the Courts, District Attorney, Members of the Bar, ex-Members of Congress, in the Law Library room, new City Hall.

Sheriff and his Deputies, in Sheriff's office.

County Clerk, Register, and Coroner, with their officers, and the Police Magistrates in the County Clerk's office.

United States District Attorney, United States Marshal and his Deputies, Collector and Surveyor of the Port, Naval Officer, Postmaster, and the Officers connected with their several Departments, in the United States Court room.

Civic Societies of Brooklyn, Newark, Williamsburgh, Paterson and other places, in Park place.

President, Trustees, Council, Faculties and Students of Columbia College, and of the University, in the Supreme Court room, new City Hall.

Medical Societies and Students, College of Pharmacy, Historical Society, United States Naval Lyceum, National Academy of Design, Board of Trade, Masters, Wardens, Harbor Masters and Pilots of the Port, American Institute, Mechanics' Institute, in the Superior Court rooms, new City Hall.

Officers and Pupils of Blind, and Deaf and Dumb Institutions, in office of Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies, new City Hall.

The closing ceremonies, consisting of Prayer, Oration and Benediction, will take place at the Metropolitan Hall, in the evening.

The troops of the United States, stationed at the different posts in this harbor, are requested to fire minute-guns, from noon till sunset.

The Veteran Corps will fire minute-guns, from the Battery, during the procession.



## DAVID WEBSTER

The carriages for the use of the Pall-Bearers, and Society of the Cincinnati and Revolutionary soldiers, will be under the direction of ASHER TAYLOR, First Marshal of the city.

The owners and proprietors of all public and licensed carriages and vehicles are directed to withdraw the same from the streets through which the procession is to pass, after the hour of half-past 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Chief of Police is charged with the enforcement of the above order.

The owners of private carriages and vehicles are also respectfully requested to conform with the wishes of the Committee in this respect.

No obstruction of any kind will be permitted in the streets through which the procession is to pass.

THOMAS J. BARR,  
WILLIAM J. PECK,  
ABRAHAM MOORE,  
JACOB F. OAKLEY,  
A. A. DENMAN,  
JOHN BOYCE,  
OSCAR W. STURTEVANT,  
RICHARD T. COMPTON,  
President.

*Committee on the  
part of the  
Board of Aldermen.*

ISAAC O. BARKER,  
THOMAS WHEELAN,  
HELMUS M. WELLS,  
JOSIAH W. BROWN,  
SAMUEL R. MABBATT,  
EDWIN BOUTON,  
JOSEPH ROGERS,  
JONATHAN TROTTER,  
President.

*Committee on the part  
of the Board of  
Assistant Aldermen.*

The day set apart by the joint Committee of Arrangements for the solemn ceremonies in honor of the distinguished dead, opened with a ple-



## OBSEQUIES OF

brilliancy—the sun spread its glowing light upon the city, which, with the early and busy preparations of decorating the habiliments of woe, in reality cast a melancholy cheerfulness over the whole city. But, toward noon, heavy and dark lowering clouds intervened between the sun and the earth, which threw a gloomy aspect over the whole city—the heavens, like the earth, put on their sable drapery—mute evidences of the general sorrow. Business of all kinds was very generally suspended for the day. Flags flying at half mast—bells tolling, and the firing of minute-guns reverberating through the city, produced a marked impression of sympathy upon the countenances of the people.

At the hour designated in the programme, the various military companies, corporate authorities, associations, societies and citizens, having arrived in detachments at their several places of rendezvous, were formed into column by the respective Aids to the Grand Marshal, who, upon the signal of the tolling bell at the appointed hour, placed himself at the head of the procession, which then

THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ALVAN, LENOX AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

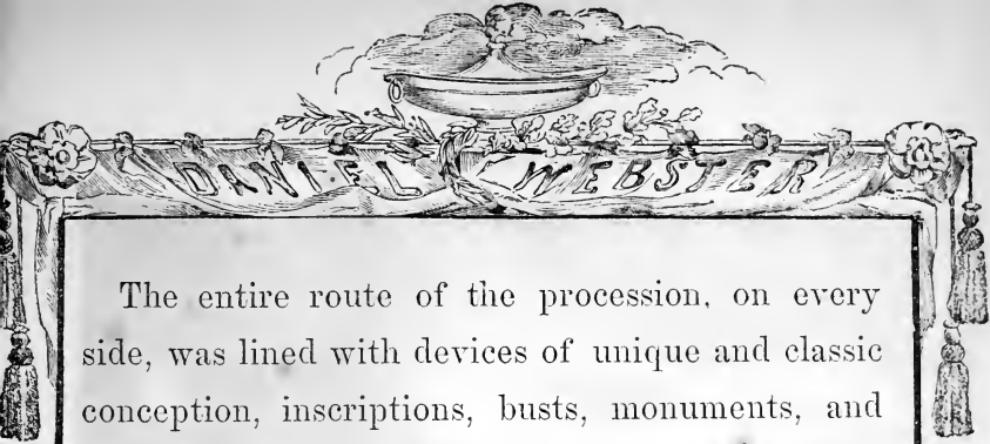
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ORATION AT METROPOLITAN HALL.



Lith. of M<sup>E</sup> Spear & Reiter, N.Y.



The entire route of the procession, on every side, was lined with devices of unique and classic conception, inscriptions, busts, monuments, and other imposing reminiscences of respect to the great man's memory.

Upon the arrival of the funeral car in front of City Hall, it received the honors of a marching salute from the military, as they filed around the esplanade, and occupied the entire space in front of the Hall ; and each division, as it passed through the Park, in review, was dismissed.

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### Ceremonies in the Evening.

Metropolitan Hall had been engaged, and was appropriately decorated for the close of the obituary services rendered as an honor to the memory of the greatest American statesman.

The entire building was crowded to its utmost capacity by ladies and gentlemen, gathered from all sections of the country. The platform had been greatly enlarged, to render more ample accommodations to the immense concourse of



## OBSEQUIES OF

distinguished citizens, military and civic ; the clergy, dignitaries of the State, corporate authorities, Grand Marshal and Aids, and the Guard of Honor.

REV. EDWARD LATHROP, D. D.,  
commenced the ceremonies by offering up the  
following.

### Prayer.

Almighty and everlasting GOD, we adore Thee as the King Eternal, immortal, invisible—the only wise GOD. Our fathers trusted in Thee, and were not confounded. We bless thee for the knowledge of Thyself, through JESUS CHRIST, our LORD, by whom we have access to that Throne, and on account of whose merits we obtain forgiveness of our sins and hope of eternal life; and we acknowledge our indebtedness to Thee for every good and perfect gift. We would recognize our obligations to love and serve Thee, and we humbly invite Thy blessing while we seek to derive instruction from the impressive dispensation of the Providence which has brought us together upon this occasion. We give Thee hearty thanks for our civil and religious liberties, and for the lives of those whom Thou, from time to time, hast raised up to expound and defend those inestimable blessings. We thank Thee for the bestowment of those rare intellectual endowments which Thou hast conferred upon some of our fellow-men above others, and by which the principles of government and of law are unfolded and made



plain to the comprehension of inferior minds. We would not be unmindful of these Thy gifts, and we pray that we may ever appreciate those institutions of our country and of religion, that one adapted to the development and right use of these Thy bestowments—of these the noblest powers of man. We bless Thee especially at this time for the gift to our nation of him whom Thou hast recently removed from his high place of power upon earth, and whose loss we now deplore. We bless Thee for his wisdom in council, for his service to the State, and for his life-long devotion to the good of his country. And now, Thou sovereign disposer of events, while we bow in humble and uncomplaining submission to Thy will, we devoutly entreat Thee to enable us to derive profit from a review of the life and character of him whom Thou hast caused to pass away from among the living. Whatever was wise in his counsels, may we appreciate and honor; whatever was just, may we adopt; whatever was excellent, may we imitate; and thus may he live over again in our own and the generations following. Impress us, we implore Thee, at this time, with a proper sense of the transitiveness of all earthly good—with an abiding conviction of our own frailty, and with an intelligent estimate of that true and only lasting honor which cometh from Thee. May we be partakers of the inheritance which is incorruptible and undefiled, and that “fadeth not away.” We earnestly supplicate Thy blessing upon the family of thy deceased servant; upon the official circle from which Thou hast removed him, and upon all the rulers of our nation, from the President of these United States to the lowest in authority. May our nation be ever the object of Thy fatherly care; may peace and prosperity dwell in

our border; may our liberties never be surrendered; and may our Union be perpetuated to the remotest time. And now we beseech Thee, O Thou Most High, to extend like blessings throughout all nations. May the sceptre of every tyrant be broken; may the oppressed of every clime go free; and may the Gospel of thy Son, which giveth liberty to the captive and hope to the despairing, be proclaimed to all the dwellers upon earth. Hear us, in these our petitions, and accept these our offerings and prayers, through JESUS CHRIST our Redeemer. Amen.

### The Funeral Dirge,

from the ORATORIO of ST. PAUL, was performed by  
DODWORTH'S CELEBRATED BRASS BAND.

JAMES T. BRADY, Esq.,

then came forward, and delivered, in an impressive manner, the following

### Oration.

This is a most solemn and instructive occasion. The chief city of a great nation clothes herself in mourning, and with a deep sorrow, which no outward ceremony can adequately attest, weeps over the loss of him to whose gigantic intellect and eminent services the nation owes so much of its prosperity and renown. To-day our streets were draped in sable, and exhibited the funeral array of freemen paying just homage to exalted worth. The old and the young—men of all nations—of all creeds, religious and political, suspended their ordinary employments, forgot all party attachments and prejudices, and united in



## DANIEL WEBSTER

exhibiting their profound regret for a bereavement which falls so heavily on our country. We felt, while the melancholy procession moved on, as if "all that was mortal" of the illustrious deceased was indeed before us. May we not now feel that we have reached his grave? The grave of DANIEL WEBSTER! What though he moulder beneath the turf of his beloved Marshfield, the whole of our broad land has an equal title to his tomb as to his services and his fame. We are beside his grave! Be it here our aim, while we appropriately honor his memory, to draw from his brilliant career lessons of advantage to us all. We should not leave this spot until the reflections which here suggest themselves have been wisely appreciated. If there be any here who credit the antiquated maxim that republics are ungrateful, let this occasion extirpate from his mind the dishonoring error. Turn your glance to Europe. Behold there the audacious despot, who, skulking under the shadow of a great name, aims a matricidal and assassin stab at his native land. In vain does he employ the power of his station, combined with the mighty influence of a church, and the willing vassalage of an army, to gain from his subjects even an insincere show of approbation. And now look here! An entire people spontaneously honor the very name of one to whom they never owed allegiance or duty, except such as the grateful heart cheerfully awards to a benefactor. They canvass with free speech all the actions of the great man's life. They are not blind to the faults and errors from which no human character can be exempt. They forgive these blemishes, and gratify their hearts in yielding enthusiastic praise to his majestic intellect and noble patriotism. This is higher and more enviable gratitude than any act by which, during



## OBSERVIES OF

his life, he might have been elevated to political position. Why do we thus honor the name of WEBSTER? Even if high lineage or great wealth could command our regard, he possessed neither. The humble parents, who gave him no other inheritance than their fair fame, little thought, when the poor farmer boy went forth from his lowly home to seek a fortune in the great world, that the day would come when that world would resound with his praises, and boast of him as an ornament of humanity. Their best hopes were centered in his elder brother, whom I mention with the more pleasure, because of the reference made to him by the deceased in the dedication of the first volume of his works. "I dedicate this volume to you (addressing his nieces) not only for the love I have for yourselves, but also as a tribute of affection to his memory, and from a desire that the name of my brother, EZEKIEL WEBSTER, may be associated with mine so long as any thing written or spoken by me, shall be regarded or read."

It is an interesting fact, that when a subordinate station in a county court was offered to the young DANIEL, his parents considered that advancement quite equal to his merit, and they heard with astonishment what they deemed his presumptuous refusal of the preferment, fearing that the arrogant estimate of his own capability would prevent his prospering in life. Happily, they survived to estimate more wisely the great endowments with which Heaven had favored him—to know that he commanded the admiration and controlled the judgment of tribunals most eminent for dignity and learning—that his eloquence and reason fascinated and guided senates—that his achievements became part of his country's history—part, indeed,

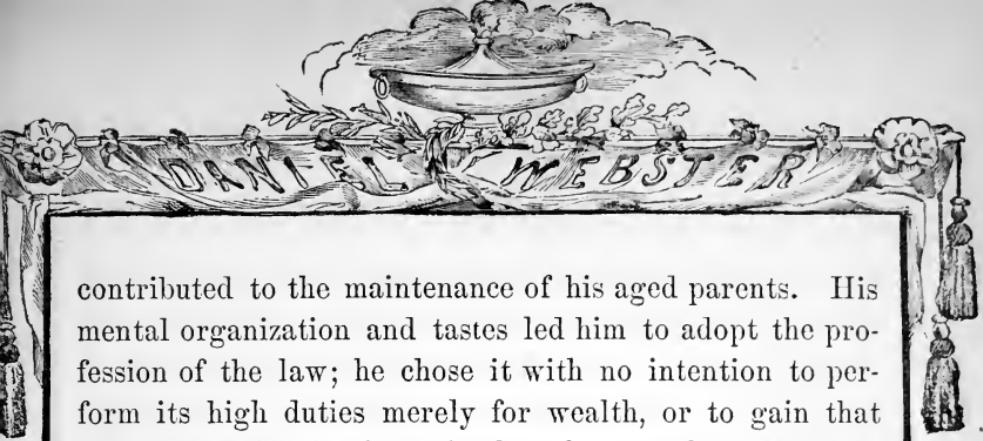


## DANIEL WEBSTER

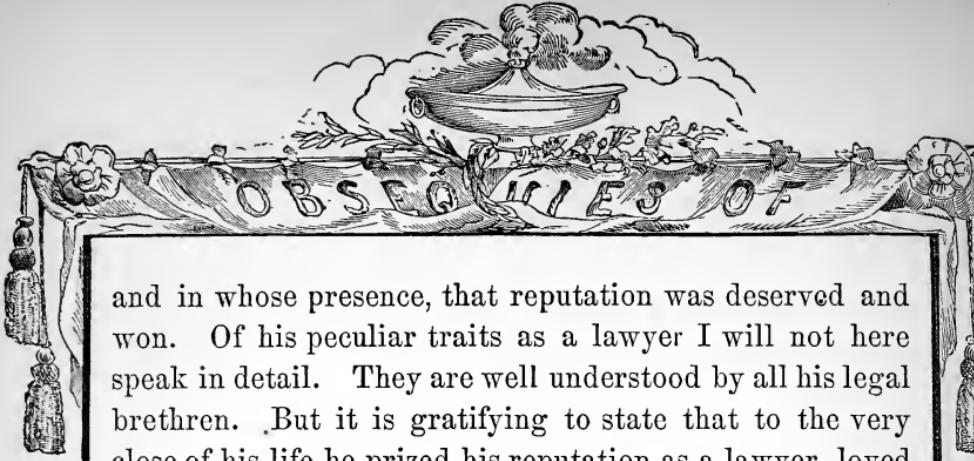
of the country itself, and that his fame, extending every-where, was destined to endure until the end of time. They left this world, consoled with the cheering assurance that their own name would, through their boy, obtain honorable perpetuity. Their hearts were gladdened, too, with the knowledge that his great successes could not diminish his love for them, nor make him otherwise than proud of his origin. In other lands, where society is divided into castes, under aristocratic institutions, we find instances in which some low-born youth attains, through genius or acquirements, admission even to the highest rank. The friends of strong government point exultingly to these exceptions, as evidence that such governments foster intellectual worth. But the interest of the incidents is diminished much, when we consider that the gifted plebeian is received by the aristocracy for their own advantage or glory, and that almost invariably, on attaining eminence, he turns his back forever on the interests, as well as the society, from which he ascended. It is a happy circumstance, that under our government the highest preferments can be reached only through the people, and can only be retained by using preferment for the people's good. Yet no consideration of this character influenced WEBSTER. He was too great and too proud a man to forget or conceal the love or the recollections of his child-hood. He has said, with deep sincerity and exquisite pathos, "I love to dwell on the tender recollections, the kindred ties, the early affections, and the touching narratives and incidents which mingle with all I know of our primitive family abode. I weep to think that none of those who inhabited it are now among the living; and if ever I am ashamed of it, or if I ever fail in affectionate

  
veneration for him who reared and defended it against savage violence and destruction, cherished all the domestic virtues beneath its roof, and through the fire and blood of seven years' revolutionary war, shrunk from no danger, no toil, no sacrifice, to serve his country, and to raise his children to a condition better than his own, may my name, and the name of my posterity, be blotted forever from the memory of mankind." This is the language of one who could not imitate the poor sycophants, that hide from the world the name, and erase from their hearts the recollection of some devoted, but humble mother—some honest, but struggling father, merely that they may be welcomed in a social circle higher than that of their youth. He could not do so, because he had that pride which makes the man of intellect seek no society but that in which he is gladly received, and makes him feel that no society can confer on him any honor to which his merit has not already entitled him. The great man, whatever his origin, obtains no lustre from social rank, but confers upon it all the distinction of which it can intelligently boast.

WEBSTER cherished those sympathies with his race which the humble are most likely to feel and enjoy. He was in heart, in speech, and action, a true patriot. A generous desire to promote the happiness by sustaining the rights of men pervaded his whole life. It was evinced in a brilliant appeal for freedom when the cause of Greece excited his youthful enthusiasm, and showed its bright flame all undiminished when, though seventy winters had passed over his head, he gladdened the hearts of all his countrymen, by his chivalry—his truly American—letter to the Austrian minister. He commenced life in poverty. He depended on his own labors to support himself, and

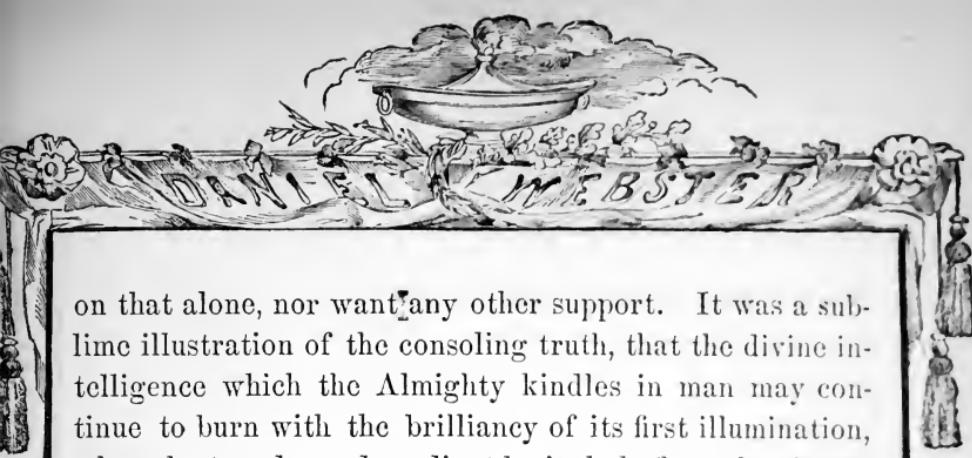


contributed to the maintenance of his aged parents. His mental organization and tastes led him to adopt the profession of the law; he chose it with no intention to perform its high duties merely for wealth, or to gain that notoriety which is often mistaken for true fame, but with a just appreciation of its honorable character, and of the responsibilities incurred by all men who devote their lives to the advocacy of human right. He was a judicious and enlightened student. He began at the sources of the law, and diligently traced the streams of jurisprudence in all their directions and to all their ends. He made himself master of the English common law—of its modifications under our government—of the principles and rules which control the large jurisdiction of equity, and adorned the knowledge, thus obtained, by making himself thoroughly familiar with the history of the science, and the literature with which its classic votaries, in every age and clime, have gracefully decorated it. He did more. With the aid of his superior intelligence, by dint of study and reflection, encouraged and sustained in his progress by an ardent love of country, he made himself pre-eminent for his profound acquaintance with that other branch of jurisprudence, entirely modern and purely American, which affects the rights and obligations, legal and political, growing out of the constitutional construction of our confederacy, and its various members and their relations and dependencies. He distinguished himself, while yet young, by very able arguments as to the respective powers of the general and State governments—and soon secured a reputation as a constitutional lawyer, of which it is the highest praise to say, that it is not inferior to that of the great American Chief Justice in the tribunal, adorned by whom,



and in whose presence, that reputation was deserved and won. Of his peculiar traits as a lawyer I will not here speak in detail. They are well understood by all his legal brethren. But it is gratifying to state that to the very close of his life he prized his reputation as a lawyer, loved and honored all who proved worthy the distinctions of his profession, and evinced an unchanging belief in what he said, with so much beauty and force, when the Bar of Massachusetts convened to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of Judge Story:—"Justice, sir, is the great interest of man on earth. It is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together. Wherever her temple stands, and so long as it is duly honored, there is a foundation for social security, general happiness, and the improvements and progress of our race. And whoever labors on this edifice with usefulness and distinction, whoever clears its foundations, strengthens its pillars, adorns its entablatures, or contributes to raise its august dome still higher in the skies, connects himself, in name, and fame, and character, with that which is, and must be, as durable as the frame of human society."

It will always be a delightful reminiscence of my life, that I enjoyed the great honor of being associated with Mr. WEBSTER in the last case to which, as counsel, he brought the influence, not only of his great name, but of the talent, knowledge, industry and energy, which it seemed neither time nor debility of body could impair while his intellect remained alive. It was a memorable association. Youth, as I felt myself beside the veteran whose labors I sought to lessen, I could not but feel that the aged, but sturdy oak, which I sought to maintain, preserved its pristine vigor, and that our cause could lean



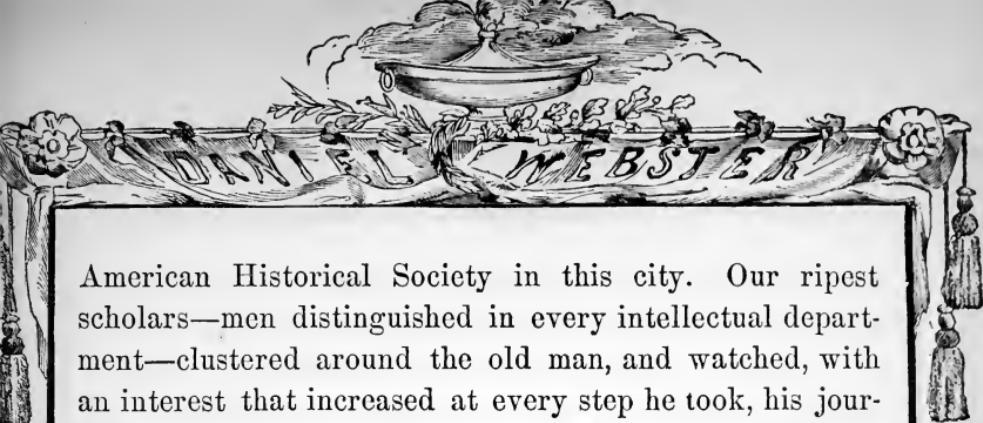
on that alone, nor want any other support. It was a sublime illustration of the consoling truth, that the divine intelligence which the Almighty kindles in man may continue to burn with the brilliancy of its first illumination, when the temple, made radiant by its holy flame, has begun to perish. He was required to perform labor from which many a younger man would have shrunk, and at times what was physical of the great man fretted under its toil; but the mind reproached the machine it governed, and steadfastly and steadily, without murmur or complaint, pursued its investigations, never pausing, except to be certain of truth; never satisfied until it was capable of demonstration. During all the time allotted to this preparation, he performed all his duties in the State Department with his usual attention and industry. In his journey through the devious passages of a complicated history, it was a sufficient pleasure to me if I could lend the glimmer of my feeble capacity to prevent his stumbling over obstacles which might not arrest his attention, as he contemplated the higher regions of the investigation. I was delighted with his patience, his willingness to be informed, the anxiety he evinced to be conducted to the real merits of the controversy, cheerfully accepting the services of any guide, if he could at last be led from the darkness into that open day, the light of which, afterward concentrating in him as an intellectual sun, he could diffuse over the cause, and the tribunal, that the fertilizing irradiation might secure the fruits of enlightened justice in full maturity. You can excuse the pride with which I refer to the kind attention he paid to my poor effort in the struggle which it remained for him to terminate in triumph. I can never forget the evident emotion with

which a large and intelligent auditory listened to the clear, learned, logical, and conclusive demonstration, by which he advanced to the point he set out to reach, taking captive with him the judgment of all his hearers. A man of more years than are prescribed as the limit of human existence—a lawyer, at a period of life when, in the ordinary course of nature, zeal would be chilled, the interest in a cause materially lessened, care as to its decision soon overtaken by indifference, the applause of success or the chagrin of defeat equally transitory; and yet, old as he was, overtaxed as one might well conclude, he suggested to all of us how gigantic, how irresistible, must have been his efforts in years gone by, when thus, in his age, he outstripped all competitors in the race for success or fame. But a higher, a nobler result, attended his last professional triumph. He made us all feel what dignity and honor the profession could derive even from one lofty display of courtesy and consideration by its greatest member, where a smaller intellect might have exhibited only a groveling pursuit of that advantage over an opponent in debate, so often secured by means which injuriously affect the profession itself. He spoke and acted so as to present, in the most interesting light, the character of a true, educated and refined lawyer, from whose demeanor the principle and breeding of the gentleman should never be absent. He closed his professional career in a State which deserves all honor for its unostentatious devotion to law and order, and the compliment which he paid to its jurisprudence and judiciary could not have been more meritoriously bestowed. New Jersey, never boastful of what it has done for the republic, little likely to be carried away by the vanity which a State, like an individual, too

often exhibits, may nevertheless acknowledge her gratification that the last forensic effort of the greatest American lawyer was made in her presence and on her soil.

I will speak presently of Mr. WEBSTER's political life—of his actions in the great theatre where he met the constant gaze of his countrymen—where he very often commanded the attention of the whole civilized world, and where he performed for the benefit of mankind those patriotic deeds, gratitude for which shall abide forever in the heart of this nation. But before passing to that most important part of his career, I must exhibit him to you in other and interesting relations. Certainly not in this country or age—I think in no country or era—has an intellect quite equal to that of WEBSTER appeared on earth. His superb head—that lofty “dome of thought”—his expansive brow, and the searching expression of his profound eye, indicated that there was no distance to which his intelligence might not reach—no combination, process, or result of thought, too large for the grasp of his conception. Unlike most men, who enjoy, at a distance from close and familiar examination, a reputation for more greatness than they possess, WEBSTER actually enlarged as you approached him, and in the quiet of a parlor, impressed you more, if possible, than in the most important efforts before the public. His mind was prodigious in compass and power. Ideas familiar amongst men, when submitted to his reflection, seemed to enlarge, and after being forged and fashioned anew in his brain, came forth with increased power, and seemed rather to bestow strength on language than to receive force from it. Though his perceptions were rapid, it was his habit to subject to his reason and judgment even what seemed self-

evident, and to use no expression, to deem none ready for use, until it fitted precisely the thought he meant to convey. In this he was a cautious and distrusting man; he formed no opinion except on mature consideration—he spoke from preparation—he avoided the affectation of purely extemporaneous speech, when the importance of an occasion required that speech should be judicious and valuable—he was Athenian in the elaboration of his great public addresses—he trusted his language to no hurried or loose report, where it was possible to have it correctly expressed under his own supervision. Approaching a subject, he was not satisfied with a comprehensive glance at its general character or bearing, but calmly and closely surveyed all its parts, considered them in their various relations, and gathering a reliable judgment from the whole examination, laid it before you in words as ponderous as they were clear. He never uttered a mystical sentence. There was no imperfection in the thought—no ambiguity in the expression. He made all men understand him by thoroughly understanding himself. He knew that if we do not express ourselves clearly, it is because we have nothing clear to express. He made thoughts simple, and was not afraid to use simple words in uttering them. And yet, when the dignity of one thought, or of a succession of noble thoughts, warranted a corresponding dignity of language, the grandest words bore his ideas along, and his sentences moved forward with majestic march. He was a scholar. He had stored his mind with treasures of classic lore, and received on his style the impress of that which delighted him in the great authors. Who that heard it will ever forget the last and elegant address which he delivered before the



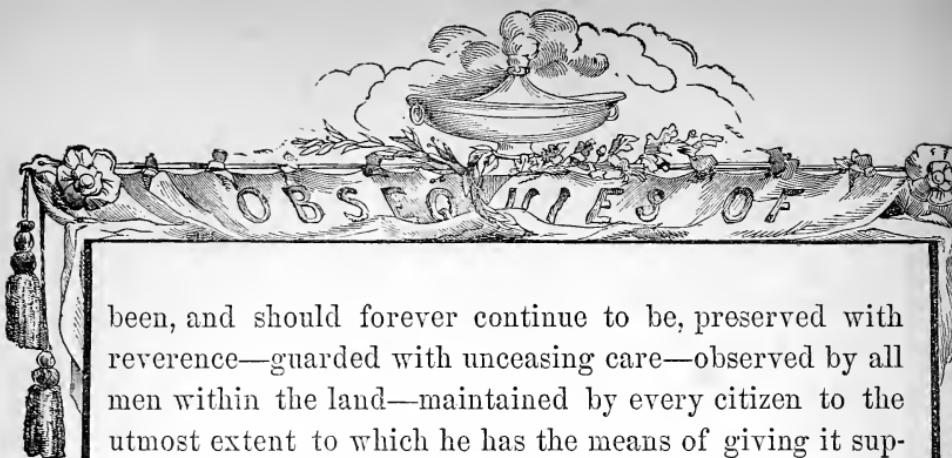
American Historical Society in this city. Our ripest scholars—men distinguished in every intellectual department—clustered around the old man, and watched, with an interest that increased at every step he took, his journey over the literary world of antiquity. The great lawyer, the great statesman, the patriarch of three-score and ten, was gathering flowers and forming garlands in the classic fields where he had so often reveled in his youth. He spoke of the old authors from familiar acquaintance with them, led them before us, introduced them as his dear friends, and described their qualities at once with the familiarity of friendship and the discrimination of a Censor. The great historians lived before us. We grew intimate with TACITUS, LIVY, SALLUST, and THUCYDIDES. We spent a delightful hour in society to which some of us had never before been admitted, and from which others had unwisely absented themselves too long. While WEBSTER enriched his mind with acquisitions from the past, he also judiciously profited by modern literature. He had the highest admiration of SHAKSPEARE, whose works he not merely read, but studied. To this we may often attribute his happy selection of words. Perhaps it explains how he obtained the purity and power of diction for which his speeches and writings are so remarkable. He did not attempt that eloquence which abounds in gorgeous imagery, words that burn and sparkle, and periods harmonized into music. Careful, happy as he was in clothing the thought, he yet valued the thought itself more than the drapery. His style of composition, with far greater strength than ADDISON's, is not less simple. In what he has written or spoken you perceive his meaning at once. The idea is never obscured by

ornaments. All his works exhibit beauty, but it is the beauty that consists with strength. And it is not erroneous to say, that if WEBSTER had to depend for his equal place amongst the greatest men in history, exclusively on his claims as a mere orator, his compositions as a writer, or his nobler achievements as a statesman, he would be well entitled to association with any man of any age or country. But it is as the statesman—the American statesman—that DANIEL WEBSTER is destined to have the widest and most enduring fame. In this respect he is American, and the property of America. It was his good fortune to render his country services which cannot be too highly appreciated. The time and place of his birth, and the history of his family, naturally inclined him to seek political distinction. He was born before our revolutionary struggle had been crowned with the success which established the republic, and made our land an asylum and a refuge for the oppressed. His father took part in that struggle. The stories of its perils, its defeats, its sufferings and its successes, were related to him in his early life by the actors in the great event. He imbibed and cherished the patriotic feeling which animated those heroes. He felt that to them, to all the patriots of the Revolution, a debt of eternal gratitude was due, and it could only be discharged by insuring to all their posterity, to their country, forever, the free and happy form of government, to obtain which so much suffering was encountered and unrivalled courage shown. He resolved to exert all his power in effecting that great purpose. He made himself familiar with constitutional history. He considered fully the eventful incidents which occurred between the close of the war and the adoption of the federal

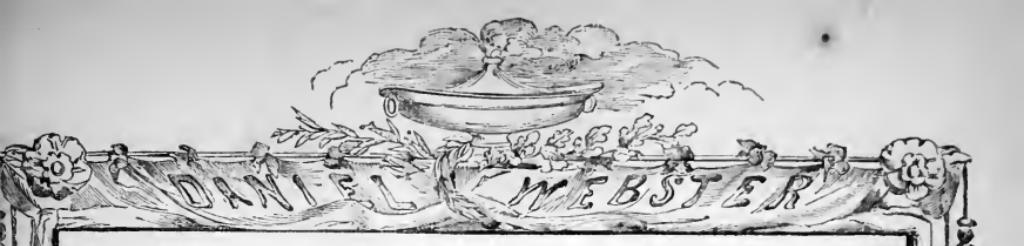


## DANIEL WEBSTER

constitution; and having deliberately formed the opinion, which never changed, and which he never for a moment distrusted, that the constitution of the United States, maintained and enforced in its every provision, in spirit and in letter, was the only means which human wisdom could contrive to hold the States of our confederacy in close and happy association, he determined that the greatest efforts of his whole life should be made in preserving that constitution inviolable—intact, just as it came from the hands of the sages who devised it. The constitution of the United States! The productions of the first American Congress elicited from Lord Chatham his memorable eulogium. He declared that, for solidity of reasoning, force of sagacity, and wisdom of conclusion, no body of men could stand in preference to that Congress. If the works thus alluded to deserved the high encomium bestowed by England's most enlightened statesman, in what terms can we sufficiently praise the wonderful, and, I hope, imperishable compact, which gave us a national character—which has enabled us to cover the nation with glory, and which affords all the means of achieving for our country in the future, now opening to it so full of brilliant promise, a greatness and prosperity never before witnessed on earth. The Federal constitution bound the States together by ties of common interest, through securities for common happiness, and leaving them so much separate sovereignty as was not surrendered for the general good of all, established a national government, no power to improve which, in any respect, consistently with the existence of such a government at all, has ever been, or ever will be, discovered. That ligament of united interests should always have

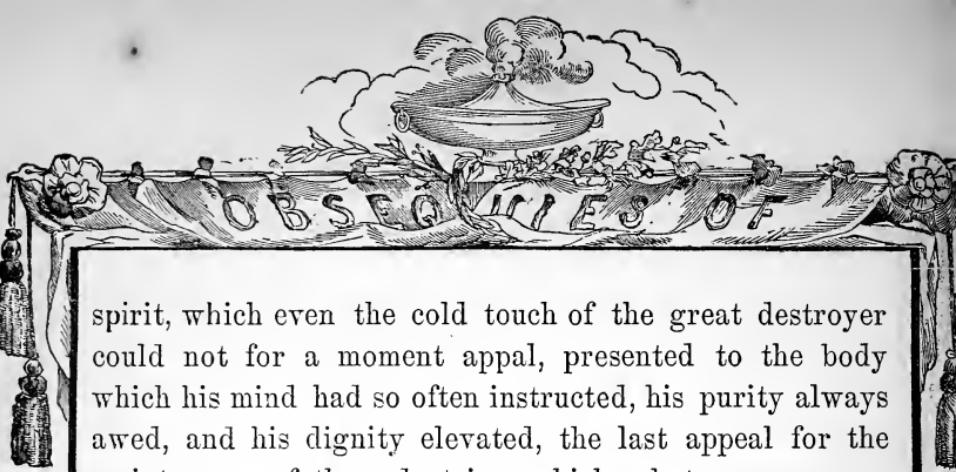


been, and should forever continue to be, preserved with reverence—guarded with unceasing care—observed by all men within the land—maintained by every citizen to the utmost extent to which he has the means of giving it support, and kept high above and beyond all bad influences, which either a fanatic or a traitor could have the ingenuity or the wickedness to direct against it. That constitution first inclosed in its parental embrace only thirteen colonies; but it was invested with an inherent power to enlarge its generous capacity—to receive into its arms new States—nay, the whole continent—even territory beyond—to shelter all that wide expanse with its protecting care, and to diffuse happiness and secure honor to all. WEBSTER lived to see eighteen new States in happy fraternal connection with the original thirteen; and, thank GOD! he died undisturbed by the slightest fear that the holds of affection which keep them thus together can ever be loosened while the name of American continues to deserve honor. If we take a broad view of his entire political life, we find that it was as the champion of the federal constitution that he rose to the greatest altitude before his countrymen, displayed the most thrilling eloquence, won his greatest victories, and entitled himself to the largest gratitude. In that championship he encountered the first intellects of America—the brilliant, enthusiastic HAYNE—the acute, pure, profound CALHOUN, and others, whose names your own recollections will furnish. The passage between HAYNE and WEBSTER has always been considered unequaled for interest by any similar incident in parliamentary history. The stimulus of the fiery assault was required to awaken in WEBSTER the whole slumbering energy of his nature. When thus roused, he



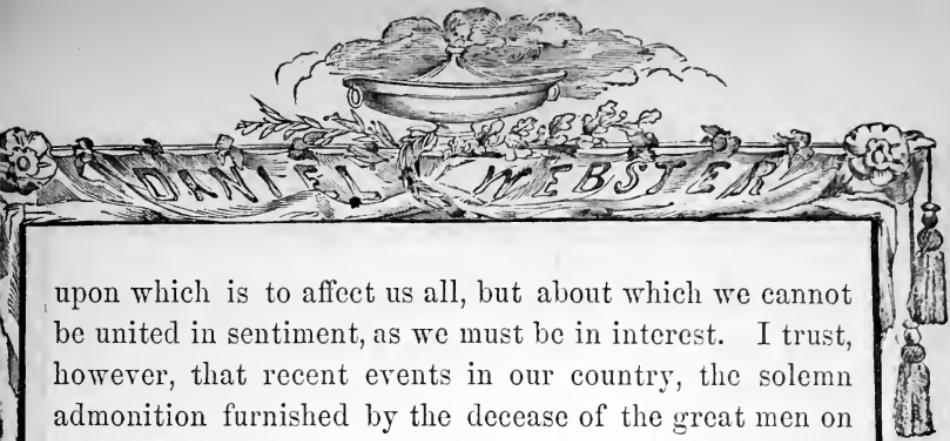
## DANIEL WEBSTER

developed, in its full majesty, the stupendous intellectual power which he had never before been provoked to employ in debate; and the result was, not that HAYNE ceased to be considered great, but that WEBSTER proved himself to be greater. HAYNE lost nothing of that reputation, so brilliant for a man of his years, but the reputation of WEBSTER, fixed at that hour, gave him a position before the American people, than which none ever has been, nor can be more exalted. In the discussions between CALHOUN and WEBSTER, all arguments that the ablest or most subtle minds could suggest, appeared on either side of the great question as to the exact boundary between the power of the general government, and that of a State, and the precise nature of the compact between the constituent parts of our national organization. This is not a time to consider the points involved in that controversy. It is our pride to know, that the intellectual conflict of the two master minds furnished a display of splendid genius, knowledge of political science, eloquence, and reason, which charmed, while it astonished, a senate that could number, amongst its other illustrious members, the warm-hearted, enthusiastic, fearless and gallant HENRY CLAY. WEBSTER survived his two worthy compeers; but it delights every true American heart to know that the great triumvirate defended the Union against its last danger. In the senate chamber, which shall no more behold either of the three illustrious men whose stirring tones its walls have so often echoed, WEBSTER delivered the funeral eulogium on CALHOUN. Yes, in that chamber, where not many years before the great Southerner came from the very bed of death, and with marble brow, an eye, the effulgence of which could only cease with life, with a



spirit, which even the cold touch of the great destroyer could not for a moment appal, presented to the body which his mind had so often instructed, his purity always awed, and his dignity elevated, the last appeal for the maintenance of those doctrines which, whatever men may think of their truth, all will say he advocated with sincerity, and with fidelity, with zeal, and with ability never surpassed in the world. But let him speak of that noble man, whose own grand language never illustrated a character more worthy :—“ Mr. CALHOUN was calculated to be a leader in whatsoever association of political friends he was thrown. He was a man of undoubted genius and of commanding talent. All the country and all the world admit that. His mind was both perceptive and vigorous. It was clear, quick and strong. . . . His demeanor as a senator, is known to us all, is appreciated, venerated, by us all. No man was more respectful to others; no man carried himself with greater decorum, no man with superior dignity. I think there is not one of us, when he last addressed us from his seat in the senate, his form still erect, with a voice by no means indicating such a degree of physical weakness as did, in fact, possess him, with clear tones and an impressive, and, I may say, an imposing manner, who did not feel that he might imagine that we saw before us a Senator of Rome while Rome survived.”

We are not called upon now to review the course of WEBSTER, in reference to the great questions of policy, which, during his long public life, provoked between hostile parties in the country so much fierce controversy. We differ with our most honored statesmen, and with one another on subjects which concern us all, and the action



upon which is to affect us all, but about which we cannot be united in sentiment, as we must be in interest. I trust, however, that recent events in our country, the solemn admonition furnished by the decease of the great men on whom we have been so long accustomed to rely, that the increasing necessity to cultivate a brotherly feeling all over the land, and to advance the glory while we guard the safety of our beloved republic, will dispel the rancor of party feeling, encourage the utmost liberality in matters of opinion, and incite us to indulge rivalry only in the effort to surpass each other in fidelity and devotion to the country, which we may not all serve in the same way, but all have the power to serve well. I leave WEBSTER's general political life to the historian—to his countrymen—to the posterity, who will judge it calmly and with right appreciation. But from that eventful career I must select, for this occasion, that by which I think it was, and is, most adorned. I refer to the last and most memorable struggle which he made, to preserve for you and for me, for this land and its people, now, and through the long lapse of coming ages, "one country—one constitution—one destiny." He was impelled to that holy enterprise by that love for the constitution which he has expressed on so many occasions, and always so well:—"I am bound to it," said he, "I am bound to it by indissoluble ties of affection and duty, and I shall cheerfully partake in its fortunes and its fate. I am ready to perform my own appropriate part, whenever and wherever the occasion may call on me, and to take my chance among those upon whom blows may fall first and fall thickest. I shall exert every faculty I possess in aiding to prevent the constitution from being nullified, destroyed, or impaired; and even should



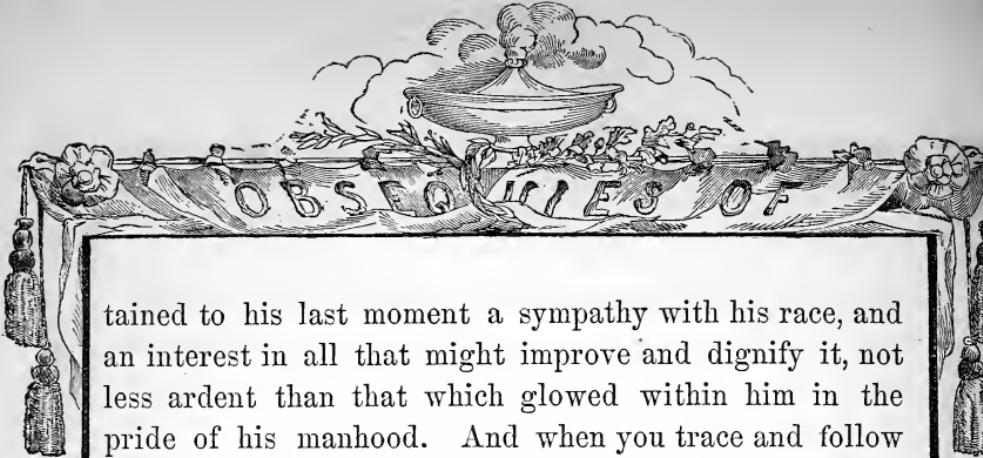
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I see it fall, I will still, with a voice feeble, perhaps, but earnest as ever issued from human lips, and with fidelity and zeal which nothing shall extinguish, call on the people to come to its rescue.” This was uttered at an early time in his political life. The period arrived when he thought it was demanded of him to go forth and meet the blows. He did as he had promised, and made sturdy battle in the good old cause. Hear him at the age of seventy : “ Never did there devolve on any generation of men higher trusts than now devolve upon us, for the preservation of this constitution, and the harmony and peace of all who are destined to live under it. Let us make our generation one of the strongest and brightest links in that golden chain which is destined, I fondly believe, to grapple the people of all the States to this constitution for ages to come.” I will furnish one more illustrative extract from a letter which, on the 27th of January 1851, Mr. WEBSTER addressed to JAMES A. HAMILTON, Esq., and others, of Westchester, New York : “ For myself, I confess that if I were to witness the breaking up of the Union and the constitution of the United States, I should bow myself to the earth in confusion of face ; I should wish to hide myself from the observance of mankind, unless I could stand up and declare, truly, before God and man, that by the utmost exertion of every faculty with which my Creator has endowed me, I had labored to avert the catastrophe.” What spirit-stirring words are these ? What a response they command from every heart faithful to our Union. May the sentiment thus expressed pervade the whole mind, and possess the entire soul of America through all time. May it be taught to the American youth as part of his prayers, to be uttered, and felt when



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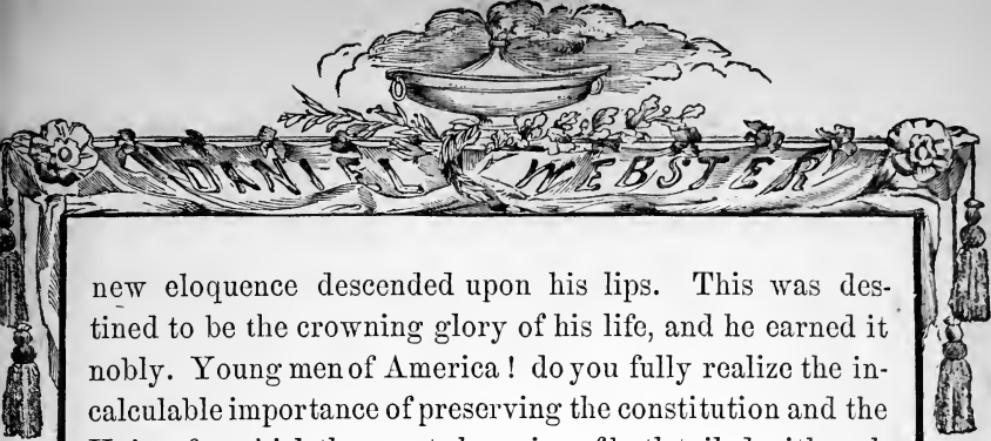
uttered, as a declaration of duty only second to that which he owes to Heaven. And when he sends up his orisons to the Throne of Grace itself, may the appeal for his own salvation be attended always with one for the salvation of that country, which nature and all the dictates of patriotism call upon him to defend, support and honor, and for which he should be ready at any moment to lay down his life. Young men of America ! let those words, of one who passed his life that you might enjoy the happiness which now is yours, sink deep into your hearts. You have health and strength. With you it is yet the morning of life. You move and prosper in the light of institutions created and secured by patriots. The generous enthusiasm which animated their spirits should burn brilliantly in your bosoms. The patriotism which actuated them, should, in your young hearts, be no sluggish sentiment, fading and falling in unworthy repose, but a living, active principle, animating and guiding your thoughts, your purposes, and your actions. As you move nearer to age, the ardent emotions which now influence you, may be chilled into indifference. Standing on the border line whence I find my affections turning to the past, and my fears resting over the future, I have scarcely the right to appeal to the young men in the tones of brotherhood, nor have I authority to call on them in virtue of any experience which age might bestow. But I may, and do entreat you, by the blood which courses in your veins, by the love you bear your native land, by your gratitude for the past and your hopes of the future, to emulate the great example of WEBSTER, who, despite his fullness of years, despite the selfish influences constantly operating around him, during a long and laborious life of service, often so ill requited, re-



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tained to his last moment a sympathy with his race, and an interest in all that might improve and dignify it, not less ardent than that which glowed within him in the pride of his manhood. And when you trace and follow him along the path which his genius and merit illumined, if any of his sentiments, differing from your own, should, though for an instant, qualify your regard for his character or services, restore him at once to your affection and reverence, by the just recollection that in every sentiment he felt, every thought he formed, every word he uttered, and every act he performed, he was at all times, and in all places, in heart, soul, speech, and action, an American.

The world has furnished heroes whose ambition has journeyed through blood and devastation to win the fame of history. Nations have been conquered, empires overthrown, races subdued and exterminated, to satisfy the craving of some splendid egotist, yearning for power and glory. The world has been too frequently captivated by the record of such careers. It is becoming more just. The merit of faithful service is acquiring great esteem amongst men. They honor example, such as was afforded, when in his age, WEBSTER, so worthy of repose after long travail for the people, felt himself called to use his giant energies in opposing insidious schemes, by which he believed, in all the sincerity of his soul, that the Union was jeopardized. The Union was in danger! The constitution was threatened! He went forth to battle for it—Nestor-like, with the heart of Cœur de Lion. He sought, found and conquered the enemy. He encountered the reviling of foes, sometimes the remonstrance of friends. He obeyed the dictates of his conscience, he adhered to the faith, he clung to the purpose of his life. New vigor animated his frame;



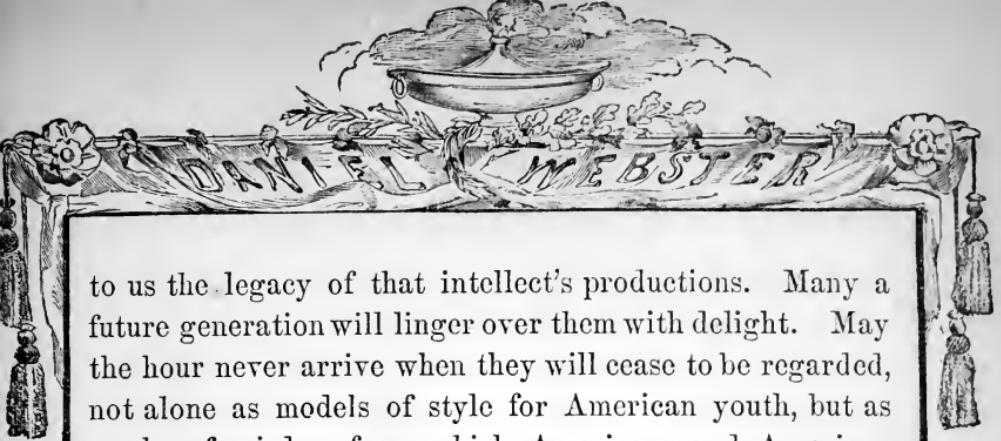
new eloquence descended upon his lips. This was destined to be the crowning glory of his life, and he earned it nobly. Young men of America ! do you fully realize the incalculable importance of preserving the constitution and the Union, for which the great champion of both toiled with such earnestness ? By what name would you be known on earth ? By what name will you describe to posterity the immortal men who wrested the colonies of this continent from British oppression ? There are here to-night natives of many, perhaps of all our States, and doubtless they feel children's love for the places in which they were born. Here are, also, exiles from many a father-land beyond the deep. They have left forever the scenes of their youth—the graves where their ancestors moulder. They came here to mingle and be happy with our people. Behold our territory extending to the Pacific. See a new and golden State making rapid strides to greatness in a region which, but a few years since, was considered scarcely within the pale of civilization. A restless ambition for more territory excites attention, if not fear, at home and abroad. All the land we acquire, all the myriads of beings spread over it, the native born on the soil, the millions thronging thither from the Old World—all these must be included under one government, and made to feel the same interest in its welfare. And how can this be effected ? Not by segregating classes according to locality of birth, but by the combination of all agencies, moral, social, and political, to make all who live under our constitution feel that our country, in its whole extent, and in every inch of its soil, is America, and that those who reside upon it, with the intention to yield our government allegiance, are to be known in all that concerns their civil



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interests and obligations, as Americans, and Americans only. This policy, and this alone, can secure us a national character. As Americans, we have already earned distinction amongst nations. No prophecy can prescribe limits too remote for the extension of our greatness. The world cannot but wonder at our progress. It has startled, and must continue to startle, the old empires. From no spirit of aggression, for no object of mere interest, against no right, in furtherance of no wrong, should we seek to enlarge our dominions, or glorify our name. But, yielding no jot or tittle of our right as a people, submitting neither to indignity nor dictation from foreign powers, peaceably pursuing the objects of our government, and never abstaining, through fear of all that foreign powers can do, from exercising a generous sympathy for all mankind whenever and wherever humanity requires, we will go on with a design to make our name, as Americans, equal at least in honor and greatness to any which has designated a race or a people from the beginning of time. And when any thing occurs, which touching the pulse of the whole people, finds the nation's heart vibrating from a sense of national pleasure, or any other national feeling—when we feel how blessed is the fraternal association of American States, and what great abilities have been employed to rivet the bands binding them in close embrace—in our devout thanks to those who, under Providence, have contributed to perpetuate our Union for us and our posterity—no man can claim, and no man shall receive, in history, a prouder place than WEBSTER!

He is gone! His voice can never more be heard on earth. He could not bequeath us the intellect employed so long and so faithfully for our advantage, but he has given



to us the legacy of that intellect's productions. Many a future generation will linger over them with delight. May the hour never arrive when they will cease to be regarded, not alone as models of style for American youth, but as works of wisdom from which Americans and American citizens shall obtain the rules to guide them and to encourage them in the performance of their duty to the Republic.

WEBSTER is gone! His mission ended as it began, in honor. He died as became a man, sensible of his responsibilities to his Maker. He appreciated the truths expressed when he spoke in honor of a great professional brother whose loss he deplored :—" Religion is a necessary and indispensable element in any great human character. There is no living without it. Religion is the tie that connects man with his Maker, and holds him to his throne. If that tie be all sundered, all broken, he floats away, a worthless atom in the universe—its proper attractions all gone, its destiny thwarted, and its whole future, nothing but darkness, desolation and death." He went out upon the dread path of the next life, hoping to be supported by the staff and crutch his Maker could afford. He died with the simplicity which marked his character and life. He said, on a memorable occasion : " One may live as a conqueror, a king, or a magistrate, but he must die as a man. The bed of death brings every human being to his pure individuality."

Reduced to that singleness of existence, WEBSTER calmly awaited, and resignedly met the common doom of our race. Family and friends stood around his bed, and consoled his latest moments. And when it was made known that the mind, of which our country boasted, as the most brilliant

jewel in her coronet, had lost its lustre forever, the whole land throbbed with anguish.

WEBSTER was a man of whom any nation would have been proud at any era in history. He could not have existed without occupying the highest position among men. Europe would have loaded him with titles and rewards. Greece, which esteemed as a highest honor, the funeral obsequies and a funeral oration, would have exhausted its purest taste, and employed its greatest orator to commemorate his great name. But the heart of such a man could not have been so touched by all else as by the grateful appreciation of his services emanating from his countrymen. Having referred on one occasion to his ancestors, and claimed for them only the merit of faithful devotion to their native land, I remember well that the tear stole to his eye, and his voice trembled with deep emotion, as he exclaimed—"This is heraldry enough for me."

He is gone! There was a noble heart in this intellectual giant. Relieved from the cares of station and demands of duty, he was a very social man. It was pleasant to converse with him—to see his brow relax, and a sweet smile light up his sombre face. He had a quiet, genial, and effective humor, too. He was a modest man. With all his greatness he met his fellows with respect. No human being could be more willing to receive and act upon a good suggestion, from whomsoever it might emanate. Like other truly great men, he avoided the error which makes lesser beings cease to be courteous when they attain distinction. He could not be what he was without faults, and the faults of great men seem to take their own proportions, and grow immense in the sight of men whose faults, though greater, seem small, because never fully exposed,



## DANIEL WEBSTER

or but remotely exhibited to the public eye. A high regard for public and private morality pervades all his works. He was, in the best sense of the term, conservative, and this quality sometimes led him to act with more caution and less boldness than the occasion justified. He dreaded war above all evils except dishonor. In the negotiation of questions endangering our peaceful relations with other governments, he exhibited the same large capacity which characterized all his public acts. He was not inferior as a diplomatist to any with whom he came in contact. The clearness, precision, and elegance which mark his correspondence with Lord ASHBURTON, cannot be too much admired.

WEBSTER, CALHOUN, CLAY, ADAMS—all are departed! Other of our leading statesmen must, in the course of events, soon follow. The brightest lights of our galaxy are going out. The stars, by observation of which the State was guided, are disappearing, and it becomes us to watch the noble vessel with the more care. For their successors, where shall we look? Answer, ye aged of the land! Look around young men, and seek the pure and able to fill the vacant places in our councils. Our present is now all prosperity. The future encourages our fondest hopes. No speck of danger spots the clear horizon into which we peer. But the storm and the danger come suddenly, and often when we are unprepared. Let us be ever on the watch to avert its injury. Peril will threaten our constitution. Unholy assaults may endanger our Union, but I have no fear of the result. I am incapable of contemplating a period, when our banner, seen at all, will not be known and honored as the American flag—the flag of a united, powerful and happy nation, and now and forever,

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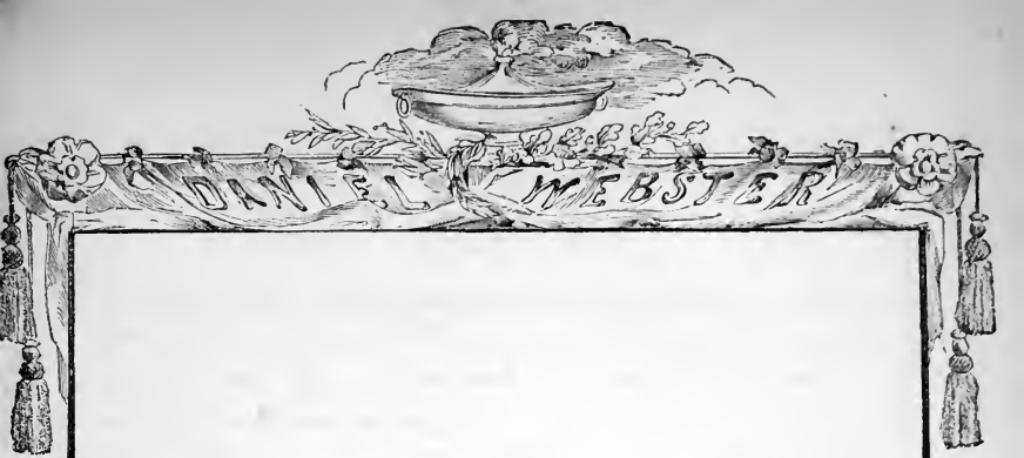
when the fanatic or the felon hand would humble that flag, or sully in the least its brilliant folds, and a faithful arm is interposed to check the desecration, may the bad hope which inspires the traitor be dismayed, and the noble purpose of the patriot strengthened by the spirit of WEBSTER, which, ever at the point where danger assails his country, shall utter, to baffle treason and cheer fidelity, his own solemn words,

“I Still Live.”

Bishop WAINWRIGHT then pronounced the

*Benediction.*

The peace of GOD, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of GOD, and of His Son, JESUS CHRIST, our LORD, and the blessing of GOD Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you and remain with you all. Amen.



DANIEL WEBSTER

# OBITUARY ADDRESSES

ON THE

*Occasion of the Death*

OF THE

# HON. DANIEL WEBSTER,

DELIVERED IN THE

SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Of the United States,*

FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH DECEMBER, 1852.





## SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

AFTER various topics of the Message of the President had been referred to the appropriate Committees, Mr. DAVIS rose, and addressed the Senate, as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT :—I rise to bring to the notice of the Senate, an event which has touched the sensibilities and awakened sympathies in all parts of the country—an event which has appropriately found a place in the message of the President, and ought not to be passed in silence by the Senate. Sir, we have, within a short space, mourned the death of a succession of men illustrious by their services, their talents, and worth. Not only have seats in this Chamber, in the other House, and upon the bench of the Court been vacated, but death has entered the executive mansion and claimed that beloved patriot who filled the Chair of State.

The portals of the tomb had scarcely closed upon the remains of a great and gifted member of this House, before they are again opened to receive another marked man of our day—one who stood out with a singular prominence before his countrymen, challenging, by his extraordinary intellectual power, the admiration of his fellow-men.

DANIEL WEBSTER, (a name familiar in the remotest cabin upon the frontier) after mixing actively with the councils of his country for forty years, and having reached the limits of life assigned to mortals, has

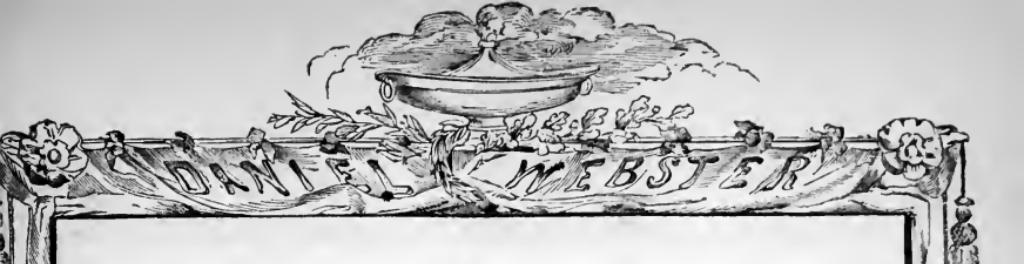
descended to the mansions of the dead, and the damp earth now rests upon his manly form.

That magic voice which was wont to fill this place with admiring listeners, is hushed in eternal silence. The multitude will no longer bend in breathless attention from the galleries to catch his words, and to watch the speaking eloquence of his countenance, animated by the fervor of his mind; nor will the Senate again be instructed by the outpourings of his profound intellect, matured by long experience, and enriched by copious streams from the fountains of knowledge. The thread of life is cut; the immortal is separated from the mortal; and the products of a great and cultivated mind are all that remain to us of the jurist and legislator.

Few men have attracted so large a share of public attention, or maintained, for so long a period, an equal degree of mental distinction. In this and the other House there were rivals for fame, and he grappled in debate with the master minds of the day, and achieved in such manly conflict the imperishable renown connected with his name.

Upon most of the questions which have been agitated in Congress during his period of service, his voice was heard. Few orators have equaled him in a masterly power of condensation, or in that clear logical arrangement of proofs and arguments which secures the attention of the hearer, and holds it with unabated interest.

These speeches have been preserved, and many of them will be read as forensic models, and will command admiration for their great display of intellectual power and extensive research. This is not a suitable occasion to discuss the merits of political productions, or to compare



## DANIEL WEBSTER

them with the effusions of great contemporaneous minds, or to speak of the principles advocated. All this belongs to the future, and history will assign each great name the measure of its enduring fame.

Mr. WEBSTER was conspicuous, not only among the most illustrious men in the halls of legislation, but his fame shone with undiminished lustre in the judicial tribunals as an advocate, where he participated in many of the most important discussions. On the bench were MARSHALL, STORY, and their brethren—men of patient research and comprehensive scope of intellect—who have left behind them, in our judicial annals, proofs of greatness which will secure profound veneration and respect for their names. At the bar stood PINCKNEY, WIRT, EMMETT, and many others who adorned and gave exalted character to the profession. Amid these luminaries of the bar he discussed many of the great questions raised in giving construction to organic law; and no one shone with more intense brightness, or brought into the conflict of mind more learning, higher proofs of severe mental discipline, or more copious illustration.

Among such men, and in such honorable combat, the foundations of that critical knowledge of constitutional law, which afterward became a prominent feature of his character, and entered largely into his opinions as a legislator, were laid.

The arguments made at this forum displayed a careful research into the history of the formation of the Federal Union, and an acute analysis of the fundamental provisions of the Constitution.

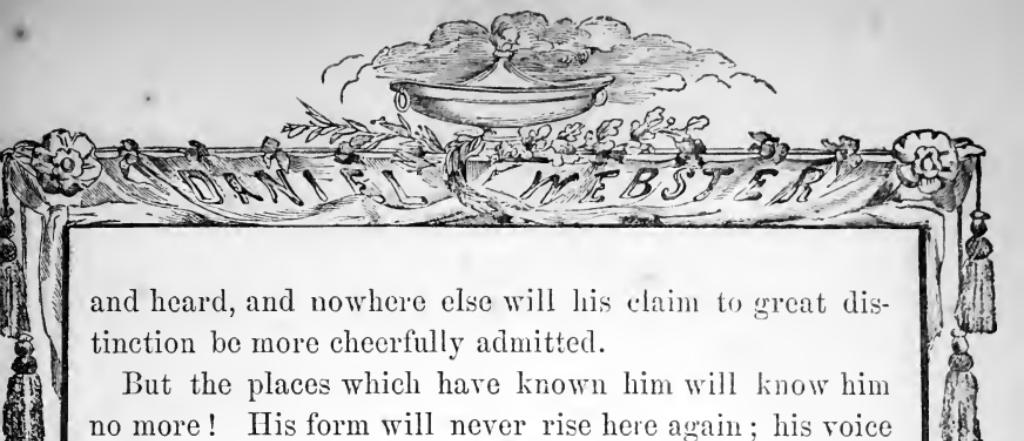
Probably no man has penetrated deeper into the principles, or taken a more comprehensive and complete view

of the Union of the States, than that great man, Chief Justice MARSHALL. No question was so subtle as to elude his grasp, or so complex as to defy his penetration. Even the great and the learned esteemed it no condescension to listen to the teachings of his voice; and no one profited more by his wisdom, or more venerated his character, than Mr. WEBSTER.

To stand among such men with marked distinction, as did Mr. WEBSTER, is an association which might satisfy any ambition, whatever might be its aspirations. But there, among those illustrious men, who have finished their labors and gone to their final homes, he made his mark strong and deep, which will be seen and traced by posterity.

But I need not dwell on that which is familiar to all readers who feel an interest in such topics; nor need I notice the details of his private life—since hundreds of pens have been employed in revealing all the facts, and in describing, in the most vivid manner, all the scenes which have been deemed attractive; nor need I reiterate the fervent language of eulogy which has been poured out in all quarters from the press, the pulpit, the bar, legislative bodies, and public assemblies—since his own productions constitute his best eulogy.

I could not, if I were to attempt it, add any thing to the strength or beauty of the manifold evidences which have been exhibited of the length, the breadth, and height of his fame; nor is there any occasion for such proofs in the Senate—the place where his face was familiar, where many of his greatest efforts were made, and where his intellectual powers were appreciated. Here he was seen



and heard, and nowhere else will his claim to great distinction be more cheerfully admitted.

But the places which have known him will know him no more! His form will never rise here again; his voice will not be heard, nor his expressive countenance seen. He is dead. In his last moments he was surrounded by his family and friends at his own home; and, while consoled by their presence, his spirit took its flight to other regions. All that remained has been committed to its kindred earth.

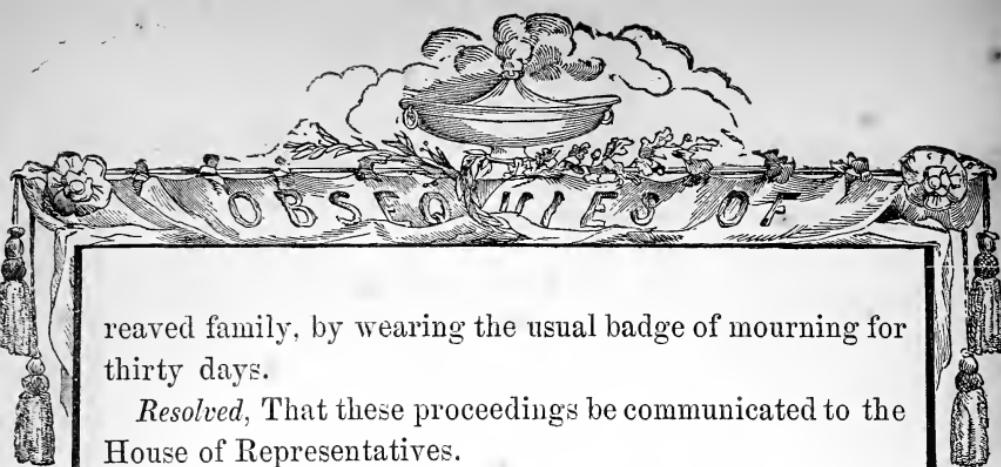
Divine Providence gives us illustrious men, but they, like others, when their mission is ended, yield to the inexorable law of our being. He who gives also takes away, but never forsakes his faithful children.

The places of those possessing uncommon gifts are vacated; the sod rests upon the once manly form, now as cold and lifeless as itself, and the living are filled with gloom and desolation. But the world rolls on; nature loses none of its charms; the sun rises with undiminished splendor; the grass loses none of its freshness, nor do the flowers cease to fill the air with fragrance. Nature, untouched by human woe, proclaims the immutable law of Providence, that decay follows growth, and that He who takes away never fails to give.

Sir, I propose the following resolutions, believing that they will meet the cordial approbation of the Senate:

*Resolved*, That the Senate has received with profound sensibility the annunciation from the President, of the death of the late Secretary of State, DANIEL WEBSTER, who was long a highly distinguished member of this body.

*Resolved*, That the Senate will manifest its respect for the memory of the deceased, and its sympathy with his be-



reaved family, by wearing the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be communicated to the House of Representatives.

MR. BUTLER.

Mr. PRESIDENT :--This is an occasion full of interesting but melancholy associations, and one that especially appeals to my feelings and sense of justice—I might almost say historical justice—as a representative of South Carolina. Who, that were present, can ever forget the mournful and imposing occasion, when DANIEL WEBSTER, whose eloquence and ability had given distinction to the greatest deliberative assembly and the most august tribunal of justice in this great confederacy ; and when HENRY CLAY, a name associated with all that is daring in action and splendid in eloquence—rose as witnesses before the tribunal of history, and gave their testimony as to the character and services of their illustrious compeer, JOHN CALDWELL CALHOUN ? They embalmed in historical immortality their rival, associate and comrade.

I would that I could borrow from the spirit of my great countryman something of its justice and magnanimity, that I might make some requital for the distinguished tributes paid to his memory by his illustrious compeers. Such an occasion as the one I have referred to, is without parallel in the history of this Senate; and, sir, I fear that there is no future for such another one. CALHOUN, CLAY and WEBSTER—like PITT, FOX and BURKE—have made a picture on our history that will be looked upon as its culminating splendor. They were luminaries that in many points of view, essentially differed from each other, as one



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star differeth from another; but they were all stars of the first magnitude. Distance cannot destroy, nor can time diminish the simple splendor of their light for the guidance and instruction of an admiring posterity.

Rivals they were on a great and eventful theatre of political life; but death has given them a common fame.

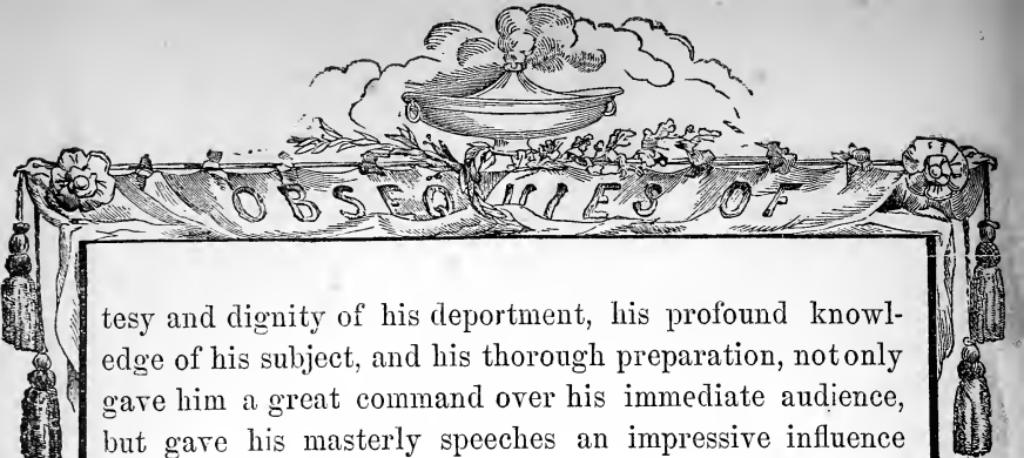
Eadem arena,  
Communis virtus, atque perennis deus,  
Victrix causa parem meritis et victa favorem  
Vindicat, aeternum vivere fama dedit.

Their contest in life was for the awards of public opinion—the great lever in modern times by which nations are to be moved.

“ With more than mortal powers endow'd,  
How high they soar'd above the crowd!  
Theirs was no common party race,  
Jostling by dark intrigue for place:  
Like fabled gods, their mighty war  
Shook realms and nations in its jar !”

Before I became a member of the Senate, of which I found Mr. WEBSTER a distinguished ornament, I had formed a very high estimate of his abilities—and from various sources of high authority. His mind, remarkable for its large capacity, was enriched with rare endowments—with the knowledge of a statesman, the learning of a jurist, and the attainments of a scholar. In this chamber, with unsurpassed ability, Mr. WEBSTER has discussed the greatest subjects that have influenced, or can influence, the destinies of this great confederacy. Well may I apply to him the striking remark which he bestowed on Mr. CALHOUN : “ We saw before us a senator of Rome, when Rome survived.”

I have always regarded Mr. WEBSTER as a noble model of a parliamentary debater. His genial temper, the cour-

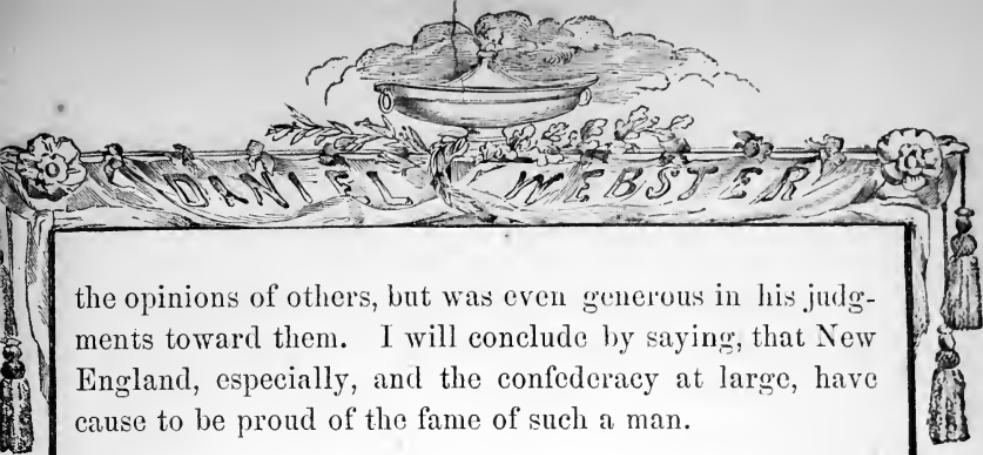


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tesy and dignity of his deportment, his profound knowledge of his subject, and his thorough preparation, not only gave him a great command over his immediate audience, but gave his masterly speeches an impressive influence upon public opinion.

In the Supreme Court, Mr. WEBSTER was engaged in the greatest cases that were ever decided by that tribunal; and it is not saying too much to assert that his arguments formed the basis of some of the ablest judgments of that court. His exuberant but rectified imagination, and brilliant literary attainments, imparted to his eloquence beauty, simplicity, and majesty, and the finish of taste and elaboration. He seemed to prefer the more deliberative style of speaking; but, when roused and assailed, he became a formidable adversary in the war of debate, discharging from his full quiver the arrows of sarcasm and invective with telling effect.

Mr. WEBSTER was born in a forest, and, in his childhood and youth, lived amid the scenes of rural life; and it was no doubt under their inspiring influence that he imbibed that love of Nature which has given such a charm and touching pathos to some of his meditative productions. It always struck me that he had something of Burns's nature, but controlled by the discipline of a higher education. Lifted above the ordinary level of mankind by his genius and intelligence, Mr. WEBSTER looked upon a more extensive horizon than could be seen by those below him. He had too much information, from his large and varied intercourse with great men, and his acquaintance with the opinions of all ages through the medium of books, to allow the spirit of bigotry to have a place in his mind. I have many reasons to conclude that he was not only tolerant of



the opinions of others, but was even generous in his judgments toward them. I will conclude by saying, that New England, especially, and the confederacy at large, have cause to be proud of the fame of such a man.

#### MR. CASS.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN ! was the pathetic lamentation when the leaders of Israel were struck down in the midst of their services and of their renown. Well may we repeat that national wail, HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN ! when the impressive dispensations of Providence have so recently carried mourning to the hearts of the American people, by summoning from life to death three of their eminent citizens, who, for almost half a century, had taken part—and prominently, too—in all the great questions, as well of peace as of war, which agitated and divided their country. Full, indeed, they were of days and of honors, for

" "The hand of the reaper  
Took the ears that were hoary,"

but never brighter in intellect, purer in patriotism, nor more powerful in influence, than when the grave closed upon their labors, leaving their memory and their career at once an incentive and an example for their countrymen in that long course of trial—but I trust of freedom and prosperity, also—which is open before us. Often divided in life, but only by honest convictions of duty, followed in a spirit of generous emulation, and not of personal opposition, they are now united in death, and we may appropriately adopt, upon this striking occasion, the beautiful language addressed to the people of England by one of her most gifted sons, when they were called to mourn, as

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we are called now, a bereavement which spread sorrow—dismay almost—through the nation, and under circumstances of difficulty and of danger far greater than any we can now reasonably anticipate in the progress of our history :

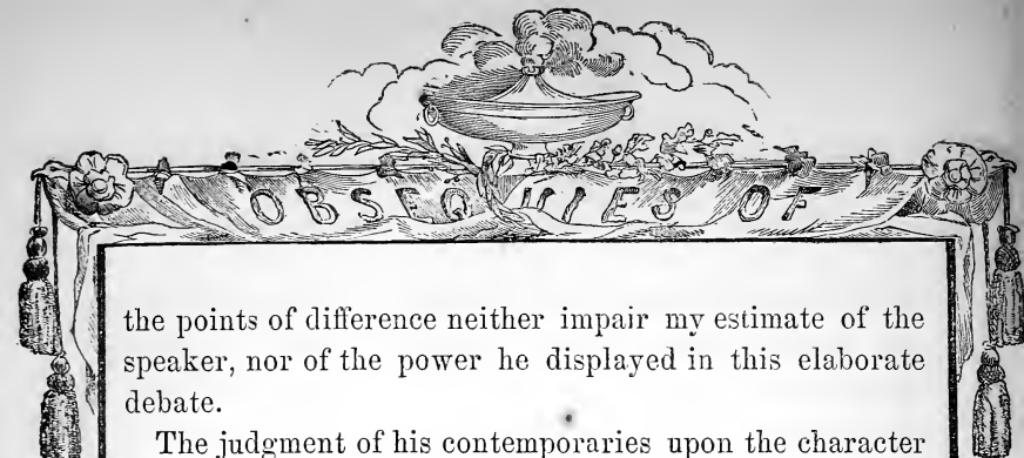
“ Seek not for those a separate doom,  
Whom fate made brothers in the tomb ;  
But search the land of living men :  
Where shall we find their like again ? ”

And to-day, in the consideration of the message of the Chief Magistrate, it becomes us to respond to his annunciation—commending itself, as it does, to the universal sentiment of the country—of the death of the last of these lamented statesmen, as a national misfortune. This mark of respect and regret was due alike to the memory of the dead and to the feelings of the living. And I have listened with deep emotion to the eloquent testimonials to the mental power, and worth, and services of the departed patriot, which to-day have been heard in this high place, and will be heard to-morrow, and commended, too, by the American people. The voice of party is hushed in the presence of such a national calamity, and the grave closes upon the asperity of political contests when it closes upon those who have taken part in them. And well may we, who have so often witnessed his labors and his triumphs—well may we, here, upon this theatre of his services and his renown, recalling the efforts of his mighty understanding, and the admiration which always followed its exertion—well may we come with our tribute of acknowledgment to his high and diversified powers, and to the influence he exercised upon his auditory, and, in fact, upon his country. He was, indeed, one of those remarkable men

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who stand prominently forward upon the canvas of history, impressing their characteristics upon the age in which they live, and almost making it their own by the force of their genius and by the splendor of their fame. The time which elapsed between the middle of the eighteenth century and our own day, was prolific of great events and of distinguished men, who guided or were guided by them, far beyond any other equal period in the history of human society. But, in my opinion, even this favored epoch has produced no man possessing a more massive and gigantic intellect, or who exhibited more profound powers of investigation in the great department of political science to which he devoted himself, in all its various ramifications, than DANIEL WEBSTER.

The structure of his mind seemed peculiarly adapted to the work he was called upon to do, and he did it as no other man of his country—of his age, indeed—could have done it. And his name and his fame are indissolubly connected with some of the most difficult and important questions which our peculiar institutions have called into discussion. It was my good fortune to hear him upon one of the most memorable of these occasions, when, in this very hall, filled to overflowing with an audience whose rapt attention indicated his power and their expectations, he entered into an analysis of the Constitution, and of the great principles of our political organization, with a vigor of argument, a force of illustration, and a felicity of diction, which have rendered this effort of his mind one of the proudest monuments of American genius, and one of the noblest expositions which the operations of our government have called forth. I speak of its general effect, without concurring in all the views he presented, though



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the points of difference neither impair my estimate of the speaker, nor of the power he displayed in this elaborate debate.

The judgment of his contemporaries upon the character of his eloquence, will be confirmed by the future historian. He grasped the questions involved in the subject before him, with a rare union of force and discrimination, and he presented them in an order of arrangement, marked at once with great perspicuity and with logical acuteness, so that, when he arrived at his conclusion, he seemed to reach it by a process of established propositions, interwoven with the hand of a master; and topics, barren of attraction, from their nature, were rendered interesting by illustrations and allusions, drawn from a vast storehouse of knowledge, and applied with a chastened taste, formed upon the best models of ancient and of modern learning; and to these eminent qualifications was added an uninterrupted flow of rich and often racy old-fashioned English, worthy of the earlier masters of the language, whom he studied and admired.

As a statesman and politician his power was felt and acknowledged through the republic, and all bore willing testimony to his enlarged views, and to his ardent patriotism. And he acquired a European reputation by the state papers he prepared upon various questions of our foreign policy; and one of these—his refutation and exposure of an absurd and arrogant pretension of Austria—is distinguished by lofty and generous sentiments, becoming the age in which he lived, and the great people in whose name he spoke, and is stamped with a vigor and research not less honorable in the exhibition than conclusive in the application; and it will ever take rank in the history of diplo-

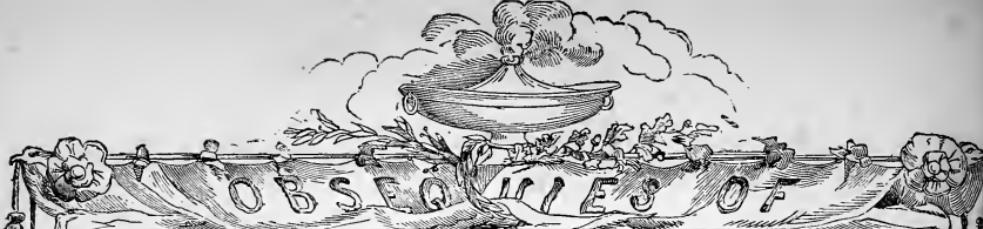


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matic intercourse among the richest contributions to the commentaries upon the public law of the world. And in internal as in external troubles, he was true, and tried, and faithful ; and in the latest, may it be the last, as it was the most perilous, crisis of our country, rejecting all sectional considerations, and exposing himself to sectional denunciation, he stood up boldly, proudly indeed, and with consummate ability, for the constitutional rights of another portion of the Union, fiercely assailed by a spirit of aggression, as incompatible with our mutual obligations as with the duration of the confederation itself. In that dark and doubtful hour, his voice was heard above the storm, recalling his countrymen to a sense of their dangers and their duties, and tempering the lessons of reproof with the experience of age and the dictates of patriotism.

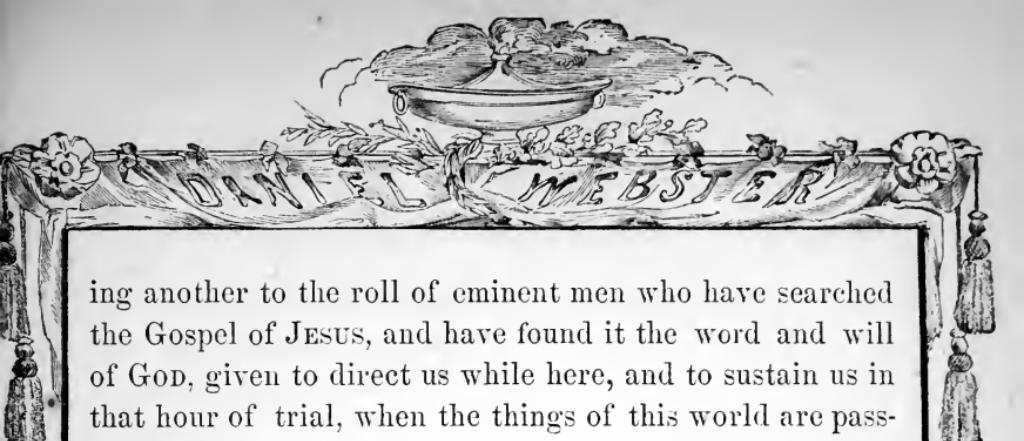
He who heard his memorable appeal to the public reason and conscience, made in this crowded chamber, with all eyes fixed upon the speaker, and almost all hearts swayed by his words of wisdom and of power, will sedulously guard its recollections as one of those precious incidents which, while they constitute the poetry of history, exert a permanent and decisive influence upon the destiny of nations.

And our deceased colleague added the kindlier affections of the heart to the lofty endowments of the mind; and I recall, with almost painful sensibility, the associations of our boyhood, when we were school-fellows together, with all the troubles and the pleasures which belong to that relation of life, in its narrow world of preparation. He rendered himself dear by his disposition and deportment, and exhibited some of those peculiar characteristic features, which, later in life, made him the orna-



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ment of the social circle ; and, when study and knowledge of the world had ripened his faculties, endowed him with powers of conversation I have not found surpassed in my intercourse with society, at home or abroad. His conduct and bearing at that early period, have left an enduring impression upon my memory of mental traits, which his subsequent course in life developed and confirmed. And the commanding position and ascendancy of the man were foreshadowed by the standing and influence of the boy among the comrades who surrounded him. Fifty-five years ago we parted—he to prepare for his splendid career in the good old land of our ancestors, and I to encounter the rough toils and trials of life in the great forest of the West. But, ere long, the report of his words and his deeds penetrated those recesses, where human industry was painfully, but successfully, contending with the obstacles of Nature, and I found that my early companion was assuming a position which confirmed my previous anticipations, and which could only be attained by the rare faculties with which he was gifted. Since then he has gone on irradiating his path with the splendor of his exertions, till the whole hemisphere was bright with his glory, and never brighter than when he went down in the West, without a cloud to obscure his lustre, calm, clear, and glorious. Fortunate in life he was not less fortunate in death, for he died with his fame undiminished, his faculties unbroken, and his usefulness unimpaired; surrounded by weeping friends, and regarded with anxious solicitude by a grateful country, to whom the messenger that mocks at time and space told, from hour to hour, the progress of his disorder, and the approach of his fate. And beyond all this, he died in the faith of a Christian, humble, but hopeful, add-



# DANIEL WEBSTER

ing another to the roll of eminent men who have searched the Gospel of JESUS, and have found it the word and will of GOD, given to direct us while here, and to sustain us in that hour of trial, when the things of this world are passing away, and the dark valley of the shadow of death is opening before us.

HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN! we may yet exclaim, when reft of our greatest and wisest; but they fall to rise again from death to life, when such quickening faith in the mercy of GOD and in the sacrifice of the REDEEMER comes to shed upon them its happy influence, on this side of the grave and beyond it.

## MR. SEWARD.

When, in passing through Savoy, I reached the eminence where the traveler is promised his first distinct view of Mont Blanc, I asked, "Where is the mountain?" "There," said the guide, pointing to the rainy sky which stretched out before me. It is even so when we approach and attempt to scan accurately a great character. Clouds gather upon it, and seem to take it up out of our sight.

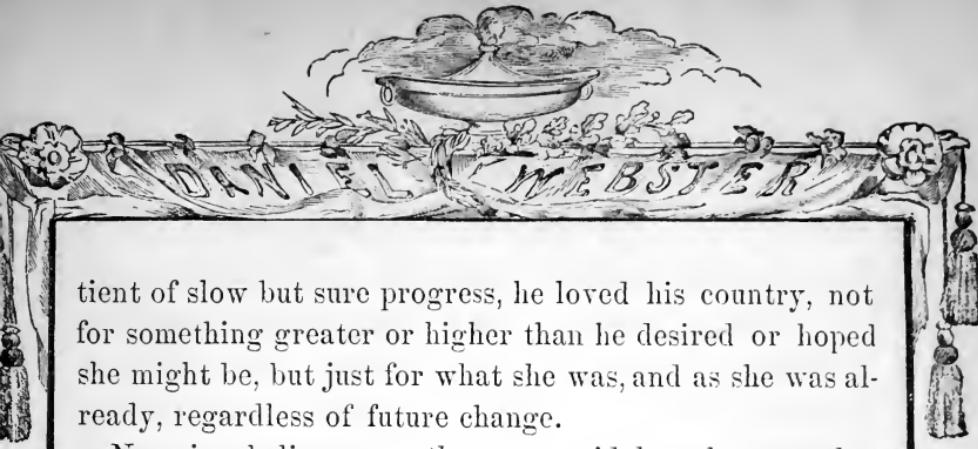
DANIEL WEBSTER was a man of warm and earnest affections in all the domestic and social relations. Purely incidental and natural allusions in his conversations, letters and speeches, have made us familiar with the very pathways about his early mountain home ; with his mother, graceful, intellectual, fond and pious ; with his father, assiduous, patriotic and religious, changing his pursuits, as duty in revolutionary times demanded, from the farm to the camp, and from the camp to the provincial legislature and the constituent assembly. It seems as if we could recognize the very form and features of the most constant



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and generous of brothers. Nor are we strangers at Marshfield. We are guests hospitably admitted, and then left to wander at our ease under the evergreens on the lawn, over the grassy fields, through the dark, native forest, and along the resounding sea-shore. We know, almost as well as we know our own, the children reared there, and fondly loved, and therefore, perhaps, early lost ; the servants bought from bondage, and held by the stronger chains of gratitude ; the careful steward, always active, yet never hurried ; the reverent neighbor, always welcome, yet never obtrusive ; and the ancient fisherman, whose little fleet is ever ready for the sports of the sea ; and we meet on every side the watchful and devoted friends whom no frequency of disappointment can discourage, and whom even the death of their great patron cannot all at once disengage from efforts which know no balancing of probabilities nor reckoning of cost to secure his elevation to the first honors of the republic.

Who that was even confessedly provincial was ever so identified with any thing local as DANIEL WEBSTER was with the spindles of Lowell, and the quarries of Quincy ; with Faneuil Hall, Bunker Hill, Forefathers' Day, Plymouth Rock, and whatever else belonged to Massachusetts ? And yet, who that was most truly national has ever so sublimely celebrated, or so touchingly commended to our reverent affection our broad and ever-broadening continental home ; its endless rivers, majestic mountains, and capacious lakes ; its imitable and indescribable constitution ; its cherished and growing capital ; its aptly conceived and expressive flag, and its triumphs by land and sea ; and its immortal founders, heroes and martyrs ! How manifest it was, too, that, unlike those who are impa-



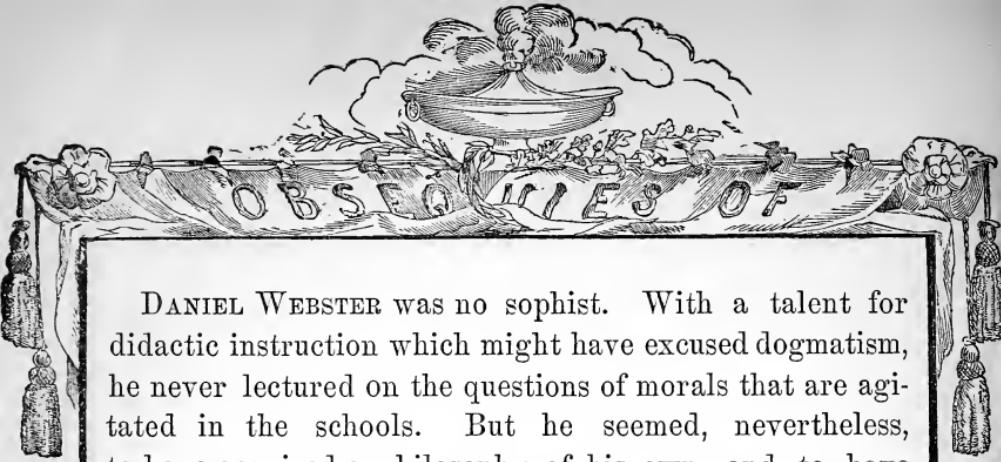
tient of slow but sure progress, he loved his country, not for something greater or higher than he desired or hoped she might be, but just for what she was, and as she was already, regardless of future change.

No, sir ; believe me, they err widely who say that DANIEL WEBSTER was cold and passionless. It is true that he had little enthusiasm ; but he was, nevertheless, earnest and sincere, as well as calm ; and, therefore, he was both discriminating and comprehensive in his affections. We recognize his likeness in the portrait drawn by a Roman pencil :

— “ who with nice discernment knows  
What to his country and his friends he owes ;  
How various Nature warms the human breast,  
To love the parent, brother, friend, or guest,  
What the great offices of judges are,  
Of senators, of generals sent to war.”

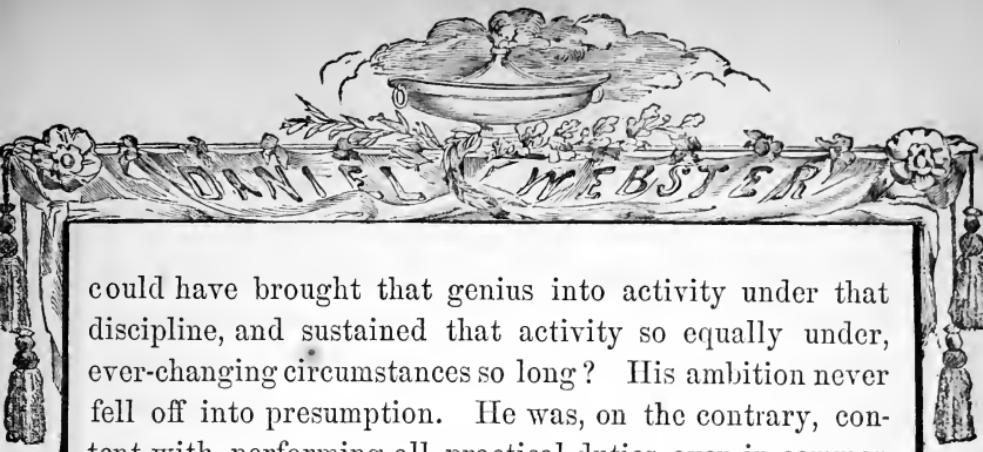
DANIEL WEBSTER was cheerful, and on becoming occasions joyous and even mirthful ; but he was habitually engaged in profound studies on great affairs. He was, moreover, constitutionally fearful of the dangers of popular passion and prejudice ; and so, in public walk, conversation and debate, he was grave and serious, even to solemnity ; yet he never desponded in the darkest hours of personal or political trial ; and melancholy never, in health nor even in sickness, spread a pall over his spirits.

It must have been very early that he acquired that just estimate of his own powers which was the basis of a self-reliance which all the world saw and approved, and which, while it betrayed no feature of vanity, none but a superficial observer could have mistaken for pride or arrogance.



DANIEL WEBSTER was no sophist. With a talent for didactic instruction which might have excused dogmatism, he never lectured on the questions of morals that are agitated in the schools. But he seemed, nevertheless, to have acquired a philosophy of his own, and to have made it the rule and guide of his life. That philosophy consisted in improving his powers and his tastes, so that he might appreciate whatever was good and beautiful in nature and art, and attain to whatever was excellent in conduct. He had accurate perceptions of the qualities and relations of things. He overvalued nothing that was common, and undervalued nothing that was useful, or even ornamental. His lands, his cattle, and equipage, his dwelling, library and apparel, his letters, arguments and orations—every thing that he had, every thing that he made, and every thing that he did—was, as far as possible fit, complete, perfect. He thought decorous forms necessary for preserving whatever was substantial or valuable in politics and morals, and even in religion. In his regard, order was the first law, and peace the chief blessing of earth, as they are of heaven. Therefore, while he desired justice and loved liberty, he reverenced law as the first divinity of states and of society.

DANIEL WEBSTER was, indeed, ambitious ; but his ambition was generally subordinate to conventional forms, and always to the Constitution. He aspired to place and preferment, but not for the mere exercise of political power, and still less for pleasurable indulgences ; and only for occasions to save or serve his country, and for the fame which such noble actions might bring. Who will censure such ambition ? Who had greater genius subjected to severer discipline ? What other motives than those of ambition

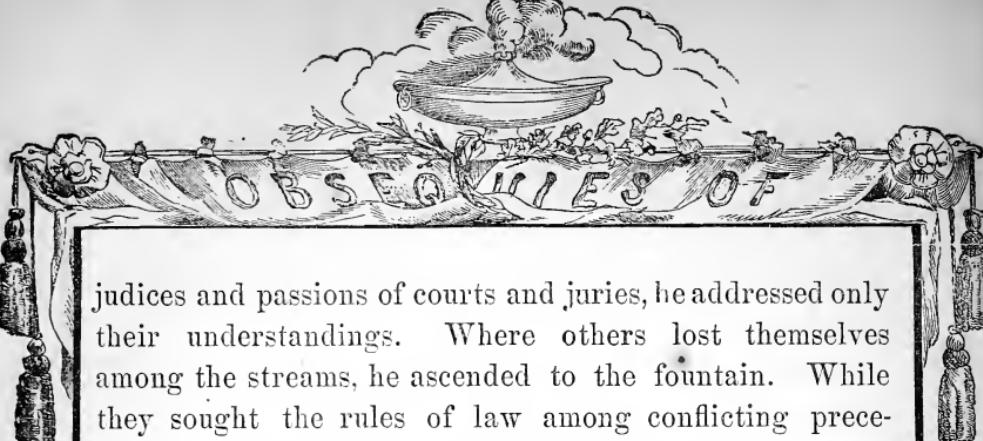


could have brought that genius into activity under that discipline, and sustained that activity so equally under, ever-changing circumstances so long? His ambition never fell off into presumption. He was, on the contrary, content with performing all practical duties, even in common affairs, in the best possible manner; and he never chafed under petty restraints from those above, nor malicious annoyances from those around him. If ever any man had intellectual superiority which could have excused a want of deference due to human authority, or skepticism concerning that which was divine, he was such a one. Yet he was, nevertheless, unassuming and courteous, here and elsewhere, in the public councils; and there was, I think, never a time in his life when he was not an unquestioning believer in that religion which offers to the meek the inheritance of the heavenly kingdom.

DANIEL WEBSTER's mind was not subtle, but it was clear. It was surpassingly logical in the exercise of induction, and equally vigorous and energetic in all its movements; and yet he possessed an imagination so strong that if it had been combined with even a moderated enthusiasm of temper, would have overturned the excellent balance of his powers.

The civilian rises in this, as in other republics, by the practice of eloquence; and so DANIEL WEBSTER became an orator—the first of orators.

Whatever else concerning him has been controverted by anybody, the fifty thousand lawyers of the United States, interested to deny his pretensions, conceded to him an unapproachable supremacy at the bar. How did he win that high place? Where others studied laboriously, he meditated intensely. Where others appealed to the pre-



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judices and passions of courts and juries, he addressed only their understandings. Where others lost themselves among the streams, he ascended to the fountain. While they sought the rules of law among conflicting precedents, he found them in the eternal principles of reason and justice.

But it is conceding too much to the legal profession to call DANIEL WEBSTER a lawyer. Lawyers speak for clients and their interests—he seemed always to be speaking for his country and for truth. So he rose imperceptibly above his profession ; and while yet in the Forum, he stood before the world a Publicist. In this felicity, he resembled, while he surpassed ERSKINE, who taught the courts at Westminster the law of moral responsibility ; and he approached HAMILTON, who educated the courts at Washington in the Constitution of the country and the philosophy of government.

An undistinguishable line divides this high province of the Forum from the Senate, to which his philosophy and eloquence were perfectly adapted. Here, in times of stormy agitation and bewildering excitement, when as yet the Union of these States seemed not to have been cemented and consolidated, and its dissolution seemed to hang, if not on the immediate result of the debate, at least upon the popular passion that that result must generate, DANIEL WEBSTER put forth his mightiest efforts—confessedly the greatest ever put forth here or on this continent. Those efforts produced marked effect on the Senate ; they soothed the public mind, and became enduring lessons of instruction to our countrymen on the science of constitutional law, and the relative powers and responsi-



bilities of the government, and the rights and duties of the States and of citizens.

Tried by ancient definitions, DANIEL WEBSTER was not an orator. He studied no art and practised no action. Nor did he form himself by any admitted model. He had neither the directness and vehemence of DEMOSTHENES, nor the fullness nor flow of CICERO, nor the intenseness of MILTON, nor the magnificence of BURKE. It was happy for him that he had not. The temper and tastes of his age and country required eloquence different from all these, and they found it in the pure logic and the vigorous yet massive rhetoric which constituted the style of DANIEL WEBSTER.

DANIEL WEBSTER, although a statesman, did not aim to be either a popular or a parliamentary leader. He left common affairs and questions to others, and reserved himself for those great and infrequent occasions which seemed to involve the prosperity or the continuance of the republic. On these occasions he rose above partisan influences and alliances, and gave his counsels earnestly, and with impassioned solemnity, and always with an unaffected reliance upon the intelligence and virtue of his countrymen.

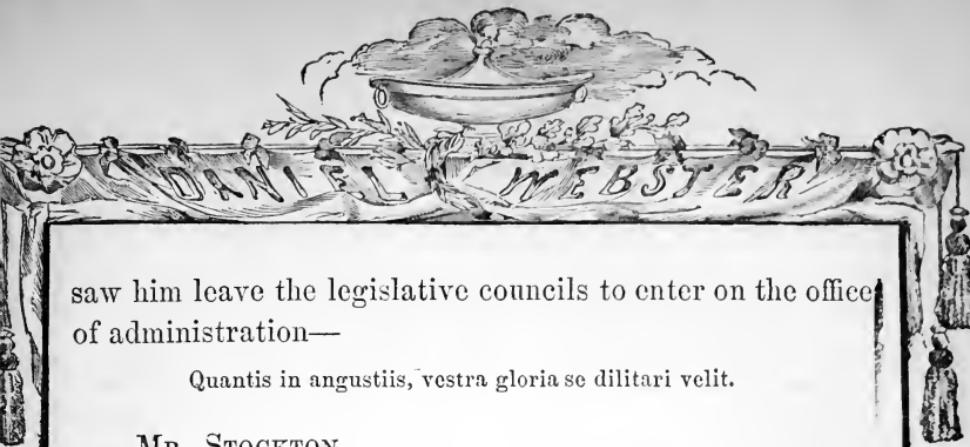
The first revolutionary assembly that convened in Boston, promulgated the principles of the revolution of 1688—"Resistance to unjust laws is obedience to God;" and it became the watchword throughout the colonies. Under that motto the colonies dismembered the British Empire, and erected the American Republic. At an early day, it seemed to DANIEL WEBSTER that the habitual cherishing of that principle, after its great work had been consummated, threatened to subvert, in its turn, the free and beneficent Constitution, which afforded the highest attain-



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able security against the passage of unjust laws. He addressed himself, therefore, assiduously, and almost alone, to what seemed to him the duty of calling the American people back from revolutionary theories to the formation of habits of peace, order and submission to authority. He inculcated the duty of submission by States and citizens to all laws passed within the province of constitutional authority, and of absolute reliance on constitutional remedies for the correction of all errors and the redress of all injustice. This was the political gospel of DANIEL WEBSTER. He preached it in season and out of season, boldly, constantly, with the zeal of an apostle, and with the devotion, if there were need, of a martyr. It was full of saving influences while he lived, and those influences will last so long as the Constitution and the Union shall endure.

I do not dwell on DANIEL WEBSTER'S exercise of administrative functions. It was marked by the same ability that distinguished all his achievements in other fields of duty. It was at the same time eminently conservative of peace, and of the great principles of constitutional liberty, on which the republican institutions of his country were founded. But while those administrative services benefitted his country and increased his fame, we all felt, nevertheless, that his proper and highest place was here, where there was field and scope for his philosophy and his eloquence—here, among the equal representatives of equal States, which were at once to be held together, and to be moved on in the establishment of a continental power controlling all the American States, and balancing those of the Eastern world ; and we could not but exclaim, in the words of the Roman orator, when we



saw him leave the legislative councils to enter on the office of administration—

Quantis in angustiis, vestra gloria se dilitari velit.

MR. STOCKTON.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—I was prevented from coming to Washington until this morning. After traveling all night, I hastened here to take my seat, wholly unapprised of the intention of the senator from Massachusetts to introduce the resolutions now before the Senate.

It would, therefore, not become me, nor the solemnity of the occasion, to mingle, unprepared as I needs must be, my voice in the eloquent lamentation which does honor to the Senate, for any other purpose than merely briefly to express my grief, my sorrow—my heart-felt, unaffected sorrow—for the death of DANIEL WEBSTER.

Senators, I have known and loved DANIEL WEBSTER for thirty years. What wonder, then, I sorrow? But now that I am on my feet for that purpose—and the Senate, who knew and loved him too, are my listeners—how am I to express that sorrow? I cannot do it. It cannot be done. Oh! sir, all words in moments such as these, when love or grief seek utterance, are vain and frigid.

Senators, I can even now hardly realize the event—that DANIEL WEBSTER is DEAD—that he does not "*still live*."

I did hope that God—who has watched over this republic—who can do all things—"who hung the Earth on nothing"—who so endowed the mind of DANIEL WEBSTER—would still longer have upheld its frail tenement, and kept him as an example to our own men, and to the men of the whole world.

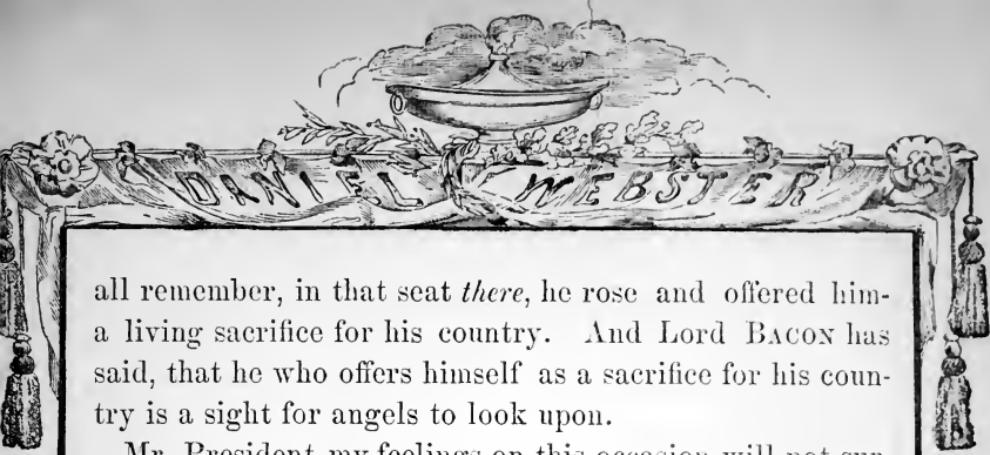
Indeed, it is no figure of speech, when we say that *his* fame was "world-wide."

## OBSEQUIES OF

But, senators, I have risen to pronounce no eulogy on him. I am up for no such vain purpose. I come with no ceremony. I come to the portals of his grave, stricken with sadness—before the assembled Senate—in the presence of friends and senators—(for whether they be of this side of the Chamber or the other side of the Chamber, I hope I am entitled to call every senator my friend)—to mingle my grief with the grief of those around me. But I cherish no hope of adding one gravel-stone to the colossal column he has erected for himself. I would only place a garland of friendship on the bier of one of the greatest and best men I ever knew.

Senators, you have known Mr. WEBSTER in his public character—as a statesman of almost intuitive perceptions—as a lawyer of unsurpassed learning and ability—as a ripe and general scholar. But it was my happiness to know him, also, as a man in the seclusion of private life; and in the performance of sacred domestic duties, and of those of reciprocal friendship, I say, in this presence, and as far as my voice may reach, that he was remarkable for all those attributes which constitute a generous, magnanimous, courageous, hospitable and high-minded man. Sir, as far as my researches into the history of the world have gone, they have failed to discover his superior. Not even on the records of ancient Greece or Rome, or of any other nation, are to be found the traces of a man of superior endowments to our own WEBSTER.

Mr. President, in private life he was a man of pure and noble sentiments, and eminently kind, social and agreeable. He was generous to a fault. Sir, one act of his, one speech of his, made in this Chamber—placed him before all men of antiquity. He offered himself—yes, you



all remember, in that seat *there*, he rose and offered him a living sacrifice for his country. And Lord BACON has said, that he who offers himself as a sacrifice for his country is a sight for angels to look upon.

Mr. President, my feelings on this occasion will not surprise senators, who remember that these are no new sentiments for me—that when he was living, I had the temerity to say that DANIEL WEBSTER was the greatest among men, and a true patriot—ay, sir! when the expression of such opinions might have interfered with political aspirations imputed to me. Well, sir, if an empire had then been hanging on my words, I would not have amended or altered one sentiment.

Having said thus much for the dead, allow me to express a word of thanks to the honorable senator from Michigan, (Mr. CASS.) Sir, I have often had occasion to feel sentiments of regard, and, if he will permit me to say it, of affectionate regard for him, and sometimes to express them; but the emotions created in my heart by his address this morning are not easily expressed. I thank him—in the fullness of my heart I thank him; and may GOD spare him to our country many years. May he long remain here, in our midst, as he is at this day, in all the strength of manhood, and in all the glory of matured wisdom.



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, December 15, 1852.

The journal having been read,

A message was received from the Senate by the hands of Asbury Dickins, Esq., its Secretary, which, upon request of Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts, was read, as follows :

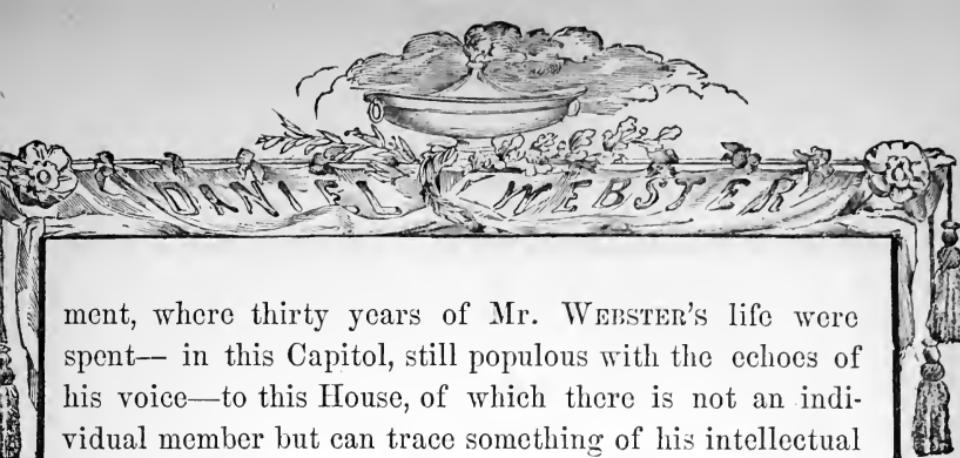
*Resolved*, That the Senate has received with profound sensibility the annunciation from the President of the death of the late Secretary of State, DANIEL WEBSTER, who was long a highly distinguished member of this body.

*Resolved*, That the Senate will manifest its respect for the memory of the deceased, and its sympathy with his bereaved family, by wearing the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be communicated to the House of Representatives.

MR. DAVIS.

MR. SPEAKER :—I rise for the purpose of proposing some action of this House in response to that which, we learn, has taken place in the Senate in reference to the death of Mr. WEBSTER ; and I have little to add to the proposition itself, beyond a brief expression of reverence and of affectionate recollection. At this seat of govern-



ment, where thirty years of Mr. WEBSTER's life were spent—in this Capitol, still populous with the echoes of his voice—to this House, of which there is not an individual member but can trace something of his intellectual wealth, or political faith, to the fountain of that mighty intellect—it would be useless, and worse to pass in review the various acts of spoken and written thought by which he impressed himself ineffaceably upon his time. Master of the great original ideas of which our social institutions are but the coarse material expression ; master of a style which clothed each glorious thought in a garb of appropriate beauty ; possessed of a conquering nature, that, "like the west wind, brought the sunshine with it," and gave us, wherever he was, the sense of security and power, he has run his appointed race, and has left us to feel that our day of life will henceforth be more wintry now that that light has been withdrawn.

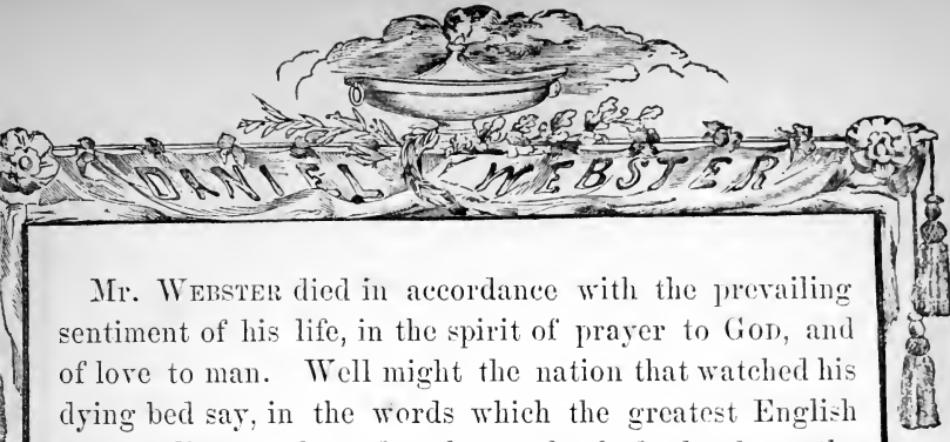
" But he was ours. And may that word of pride  
Drown, with its lofty tone, pain's bitter cry !"

I have no intention of undertaking here to measure his labors or interpret his ideas ; but I feel tempted to say that his great field of action—the greatest which any statesman can have—was in undertaking to apply general principles to an artificial and complicated system ; to reconcile liberty with law ; to work out the advance of liberty and civilization through and under the rules of law and government ; to solve that greatest problem of human government, how much of the ideal may safely be let into the practical.

He sought these objects, and he sought the political power which would enable him to carry out these objects,

and he threw into the struggle the great passions of a great nature—the *quidquid vult valde vult* of the elder BRUTUS. He sought, and not unsuccessfully, to throw around the cold impersonal idea of a constitution the halo of love and reverence, which, in the Old World, gathers round the dynasties of a thousand years; for, in the attachment thus created, he thought he saw the means of safety and permanence for his country. His large experience and broad forecast gave him notice of national dangers which all did not see, as the wires of the electric telegraph convey news of startling import, unknown to the slumbering villages through which they pass. Whether his fears were well or ill-founded, the future, the best guardian of his fame, will show; but, whether well or ill-founded, matters nothing now to him. He has passed through the last and sternest trial, which he has himself, in anticipation, described in words never to be forgotten:

“One may live (said he) as a conqueror, a hero, or a magistrate, but he must die as a man. The bed of death brings every human being to his pure individuality; to the intense contemplation of that, the deepest and most solemn of all relations—the relation between the creature and his Creator. Here it is that fame and renown cannot assist us; that all external things must fail to aid us; that friends, affection, and human love and devotedness cannot succor us. This relation, the true foundation of all duty—a relation perceived and felt by conscience and confirmed by revelation—our illustrious friend, now deceased, always acknowledged. He reverenced the Scripture of truth, honored the pure morality which they teach, and clung to the hopes of future life which they impart.”



Mr. WEBSTER died in accordance with the prevailing sentiment of his life, in the spirit of prayer to God, and of love to man. Well might the nation that watched his dying bed say, in the words which the greatest English poet applies to a legendary hero, who had also been the stay of his country in peril :

Nothing is here for tears, nothing to wail  
Or knock the breast; no weakness, no contempt.  
Dispraise or blame; nothing but well and fair.  
And what may comfort us in a death so noble.

Mr. Speaker, I move the following resolves:

*Resolved*, That this House concurs with the Senate in its expression of grief for the death of DANIEL WEBSTER, of respect for his memory, and of estimation of the services which he rendered to his country.

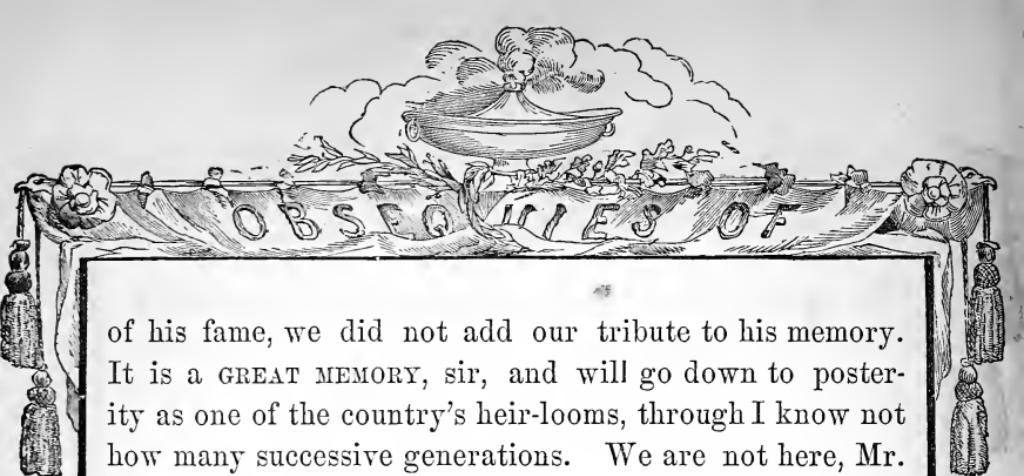
*Resolved*. That the members of this House will wear crape on the left arm for the space of thirty days.

*Resolved*, That the Speaker be requested to make these resolves known to the surviving relatives of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That this House do now adjourn.

MR. APPLETON, of Maine.

MR. SPEAKER:—I do not know that I ought to add any thing to what has already been said upon the resolutions before us; yet since the death of Mr. WEBSTER was a national calamity, it is fit that all classes and all parties in the community should unite to testify their full appreciation of it. The people themselves have admonished us of this, as they have gathered recently with mournful reverence around his tomb; and we should be unworthy of them if, here in the Capitol, where he won so much



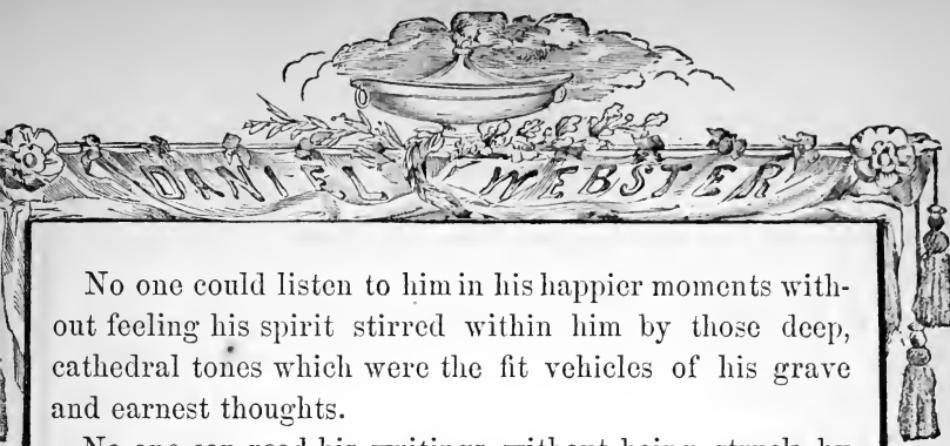
## OBSEQUIES OF

of his fame, we did not add our tribute to his memory. It is a GREAT MEMORY, sir, and will go down to posterity as one of the country's heir-looms, through I know not how many successive generations. We are not here, Mr. Speaker, to build his monument. He builded that for himself before he died ; and, had he failed to do so, none among us could supply the deficiency. We are here, rather, to recognize his labors, and to inscribe the marble with his name.

That we have not all sympathized with him in his political doctrines, or been ready to sanction every transaction of his political life, need not, and, I am sure, does not, abate any thing from our respect for his services, or our regret for his loss. His character and his works—what he was and what he did—constitute a legacy which no sound-hearted American can contemplate without emotions of gratitude and pride. There is *enough* of DANIEL WEBSTER, sir, to furnish a common ground upon which *all* his countrymen can mingle their hearty tributes to his memory.

He was a man to be remarked anywhere. Among a *barbarous* people he would have excited reverence by his very look and mien. No one could stand before him without knowing that he stood in a majestic presence, and admiring those lineaments of greatness with which his Creator had stamped, in a manner not to be mistaken, his outward form. If there ever was such an instance on earth, his was the appearance described by the great dramatist :

The combination and the form [indeed,  
Where every god did seem to set his seal,  
To give the world assurance of a man.

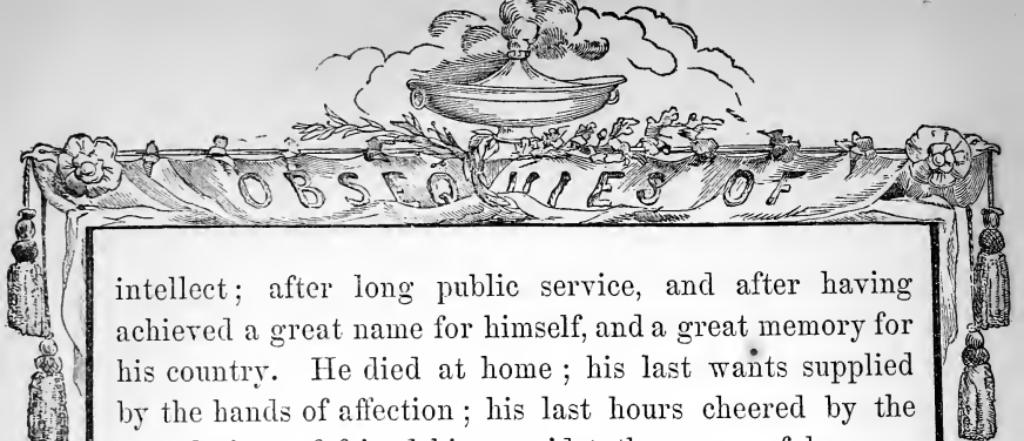


No one could listen to him in his happier moments without feeling his spirit stirred within him by those deep, cathedral tones which were the fit vehicles of his grave and earnest thoughts.

No one can read his writings without being struck by the wonderful manner in which they unite a severe simplicity of style with great warmth of fancy, and great affluence of diction.

We, Mr. Speaker, remember his look and his spoken words ; but by those who are to come after us he will be chiefly known through that written eloquence which is gathered in our public records, and enshrined among the pages of his published works. By these, at least, he *still lives*, and by these, in my judgment, he will continue to live after these pillars shall have fallen, and this Capitol shall have crumbled into ruin. DEMOSTHENES has survived the Parthenon, and TULLY still pleads before the world the cause of Roman culture and Roman oratory ; but there is nothing, it seems to me, either in TULLY or in DEMOSTHENES, which, for conception, or language, or elevation of sentiment, can exceed some passages in the writings which remain of DANIEL WEBSTER. His fame, indeed, is secure, for it is guarded by his own works ; and, as he himself said of Mr. CALHOUN, "he has lived long enough—he has done enough, and he has done it so well, so successfully, so honorably, as to connect himself for all time with the records of his country."

In no respect, Mr. Speaker, is this an occasion of lamentation for *him*. Death was not meant to be regarded as an evil, or else it would not come alike to all ; and about Mr. WEBSTER's death there were many circumstances of felicity and good fortune. He died in the maturity of his

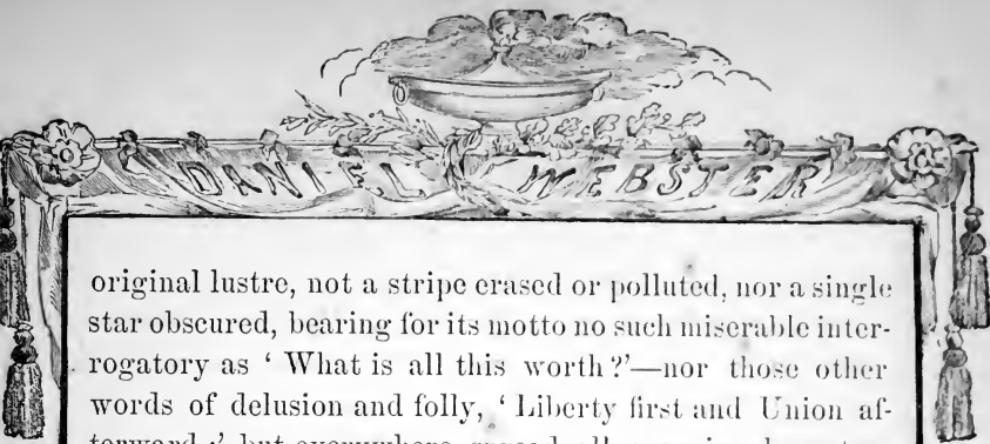


## OBSEQUIES OF

intellect; after long public service, and after having achieved a great name for himself, and a great memory for his country. He died at home; his last wants supplied by the hands of affection; his last hours cheered by the consolations of friendship; amidst those peaceful scenes which he had himself assisted to make beautiful, and within hearing of that ocean anthem to which he always listened with emotions of gratitude and joy. He died, too, conscious of the wonderful growth and prosperity and glory of his native land. His eloquent prayer had been answered—the prayer which he breathed forth to Providence at the greatest era of his life, when he stood side by side with ANDREW JACKSON, and they both contended for what was, in their belief, the cause of the Constitution and the Union.

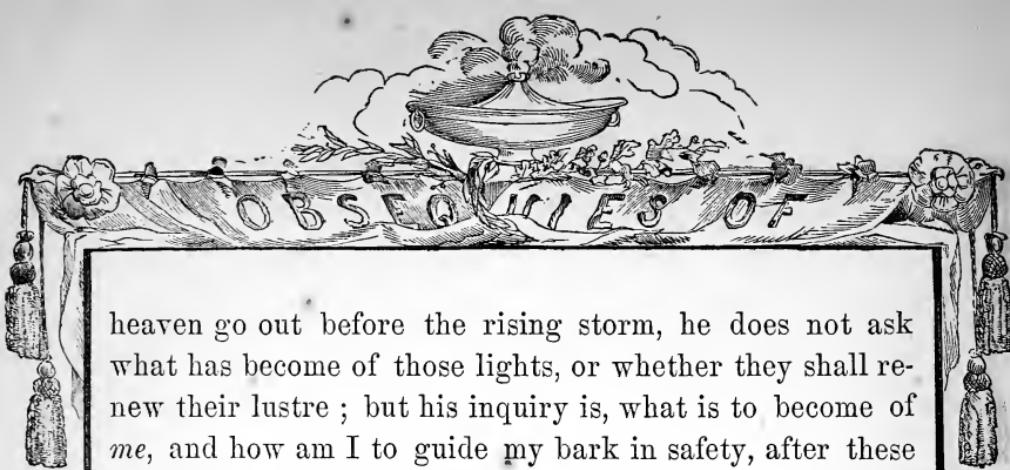
I pause, Mr. Speaker, at the combination of those two names. ANDREW JACKSON and DANIEL WEBSTER! DANIEL WEBSTER and ANDREW JACKSON! With the clear intellect and glorious oratory of the one, added to the intuitive sagacity and fate-like will of the other, I will not ask what *wrong* is there which they could not successfully crush, but what *right* is there, rather, which could withstand their united power.

“When my eyes,” he said, on that great occasion, “are turned to behold for the last time the sun in heaven, may I not see him shining on the broken and dishonored fragments of a once glorious Union; on States dissevered, discordant, belligerent; on a land rent with civil feuds, or drenched, it may be, with fraternal blood. Let their last feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the republic, now known and honored throughout the earth, still full high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their

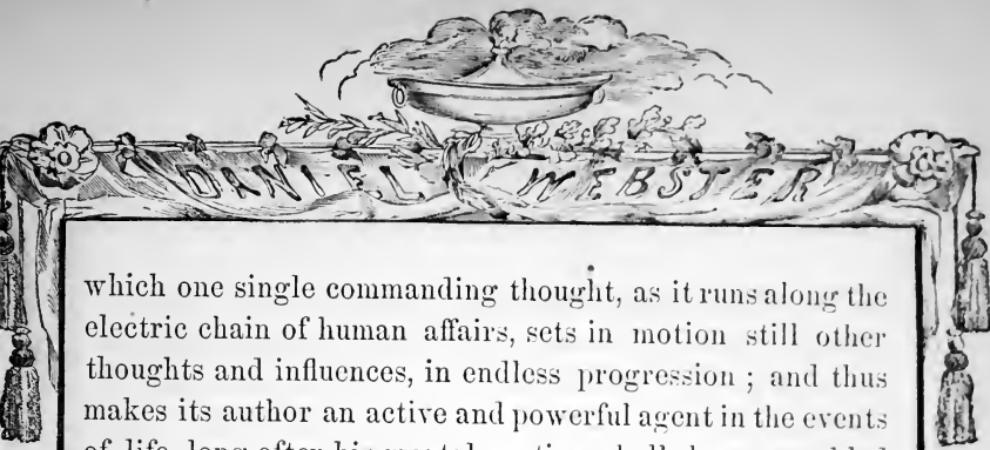


original lustre, not a stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured, bearing for its motto no such miserable interrogatory as ‘ What is all this worth?’—nor those other words of delusion and folly, ‘ Liberty first and Union afterward ;’ but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole heavens, that other sentiment, dear to every American heart, ‘ Liberty *and* Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.’” Sir, Mr. WEBSTER outlived the crisis of 1830, and saw his country emerge in safety, also, from that later tempest of sectional disturbance, whose waters are even yet heaving with the swell of subdued, but not exhausted passion. He left this nation great, prosperous and happy ; and more than that, he left the Constitution and the Union in vigorous existence, under whose genial influences all that glory, and prosperity, and happiness, he knew, had been achieved. To preserve *them*, he had risked what few men *have* to risk—his reputation, his good name, his cherished friendships ; and if there be any who doubt the wisdom of his 7th of March speech, let them consider the value of these treasures, and they will at least give him credit for patriotism and sincerity. But I am unwilling, Mr. Speaker, to dwell upon this portion of his career. The fires of that crisis have subsided ; but their ashes are yet warm with recent strife. What Mr. WEBSTER did, and the other great men with whom he labored, to extinguish those fires, has gone into the keeping of history, and *they* have found their best reward in the continued safety of the republic.

Our anxiety need not be for *them*. When the mariner is out upon the ocean, and sees, one by one, the lights of



heaven go out before the rising storm, he does not ask what has become of those lights, or whether they shall renew their lustre ; but his inquiry is, what is to become of *me*, and how am I to guide my bark in safety, after these natural pilots of the sky have disappeared. Yet even then, by consulting those calculations and directions, which wise and skillful men had prepared, when the light did shine, and there was no tempest raging upon the sea, he is enabled, it may be, to grope his way in safety to his desired port. And this, sir, is our consolation upon occasions like the present one. JACKSON, and CALHOUN, and CLAY, and WRIGHT, and POLK, and WOODBURY, and WEBSTER, are indeed no more ; and if all that they thought, and said, and did—their wise conceptions, and their heroic deeds, and their bright examples—were buried *with* them, how terribly deepened would now be our sense of the nation's loss, and how much less hopeful the prospects of republican liberty. But it is not so. “A superior and commanding human intellect,” (Mr. WEBSTER has himself told us,) “a truly great man, when Heaven vouchsafes so rare a gift, is not a temporary flame, burning brightly for a while, and then giving place to returning darkness. It is rather a spark of fervent heat, as well as radiant light, with power to enkindle the common mass of human mind; so that when it glimmers in its own decay, and finally goes out in death, no night follows, but it leaves the world all light, all on fire, from the potent contact of its own spirit.” No, sir, our great men do *not* wholly die. All that they achieved, worthy of remembrance, survives them. They live in their recorded actions ; they live in their bright examples ; they live in the respect and gratitude of mankind ; and they live in that peculiar influence, by



which one single commanding thought, as it runs along the electric chain of human affairs, sets in motion still other thoughts and influences, in endless progression ; and thus makes its author an active and powerful agent in the events of life, long after his mortal portion shall have crumbled in the tomb.

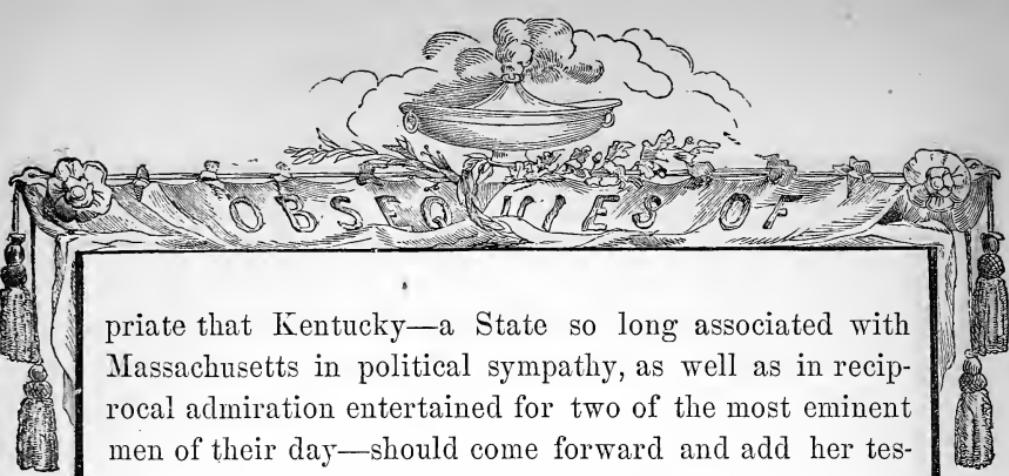
Let us thank GOD for this immortality of worth, and rejoice in every example which is given to us of what our nature is capable of accomplishing. Let it teach us not despair, but courage, and lead us to follow in its light, at however great a distance, and with however unequal steps. This is the lesson of wisdom, as well as of poetry.

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime :  
And departing, leave behind us  
Foot-prints on the sands of Time.  
  
Foot-prints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, may take heart again.

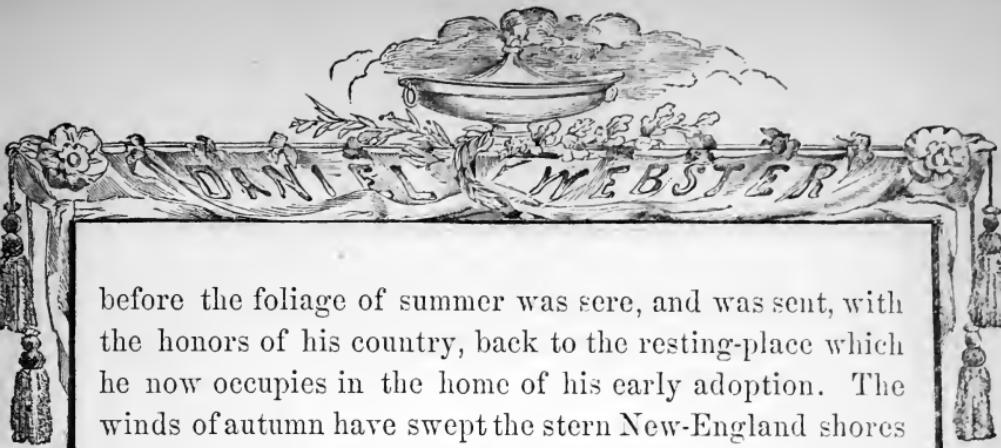
When God shall send his Angel to *us*, Mr. Speaker, bearing the scroll of death, may we be able to bow our heads to his mission with as much of gentleness and resignation as marked the last hours of DANIEL WEBSTER.

#### MR. PRESTON.

Mr. SPEAKER :—I have been requested, by some of the gentlemen who compose the delegation from my State, to make some remarks upon the subject of the message and resolutions received from the Senate, which have been laid upon your table this morning, in relation to the death of Mr. WEBSTER. It was, in their opinion, peculiarly appro-

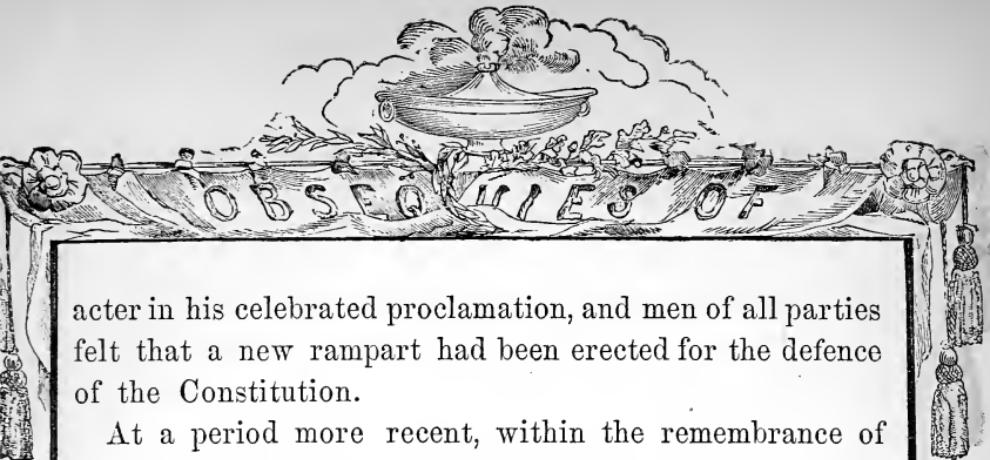


priate that Kentucky—a State so long associated with Massachusetts in political sympathy, as well as in reciprocal admiration entertained for two of the most eminent men of their day—should come forward and add her testimonial of the esteem in which she held his life and great public services, and the regret she experienced at the calamity which has befallen the country. The mind naturally goes back, in looking over the great career of DANIEL WEBSTER, to the period of his birth—seventy years ago. In the northern part of the State of New Hampshire, beneath the roof of his pioneer father, the future statesman first drew the breath of life, and imbibed, amid its picturesque scenery and wild mountains, that freedom of thought, that dignity, and that intellectual health which left so indelible a mark upon his oratory and public career in after-life. No man has earned a greater reputation, in the present time, in forensic endeavor than Mr. WEBSTER, nor any whose reputation could challenge comparison, unless it be one who was also born in a similar obscure station of life, amid the marshes of Hanover, and whose future led him to cross the summit of the Appalachian range with the great tide of population which poured from Virginia upon the fertile plains of Kentucky. Their destiny has been useful, great and brilliant. From that period to this, these celebrated contemporaries have been conspicuous in the career of public utility to which they devoted their lives, and by their intellectual superiority and dignified statesmanship have commanded not only the respect of their several States, but of the nation and of mankind. For forty years they swayed the councils of their country, and the same year sees them consigned to the grave. The statesman of Ashland died in this city,



before the foliage of summer was sere, and was sent, with the honors of his country, back to the resting-place which he now occupies in the home of his early adoption. The winds of autumn have swept the stern New-England shores—the shores of Plymcuth, where the pilgrim fathers landed—and caught up the expiring breath of DANIEL WEBSTER as he terminated his life of honorable service. The dirge that the night winds now utter through the primeval forests of Ashland lament for one; the surges of the wintry ocean, as they beat upon the shores of Marshfield, are a fitting requiem to the other.

There are two points of particular prominence in the life of Mr. WEBSTER to which I will allude. All remember the celebrated struggle of 1830. The greatest minds of the country, seeing the constitutional questions involved from different points of view, were embroiled in the controversy. The darkest apprehensions were entertained. A gallant and gifted senator from South Carolina, (General HAYNE,) with a genius and fire characteristic of the land of his birth, had expressed the views of his party with great ability, and, as it was thought, with irresistible eloquence. The eyes of the country were directed to WEBSTER as the Champion of the Constitution and the Union. Crowds of beautiful women and anxious men on that day thronged the other wing of this Capitol. What patriotic heart in the nation has yet forgotten that noble and memorable reply? A deep and enthusiastic sentiment of admiration and respect thrilled through the heart of the people, and even yet the triumph of that son of New England is consecrated in the memory of his countrymen. Subsequently, the Chief Magistrate of the Union, President JACKSON, announced opinions of a similar char-



acter in his celebrated proclamation, and men of all parties felt that a new rampart had been erected for the defence of the Constitution.

At a period more recent, within the remembrance of all, DANIEL WEBSTER again appeared in another critical emergency that imperilled the safety of the republic. It was on the 7th of March, 1850. Excited by the territorial question, the spirit of fanaticism broke forth with fearful violence from the North. But it did not shake his undaunted soul. He gazed with majestic serenity at the storm, and sublime in his self-reliance, as VIRGIL describes MEZENTIUS surrounded by his enemies,

He, like a solid rock by seas inclosed,  
To raging winds and roaring waves exposed,  
From his proud summit looking down, despairs  
Their empty menace, and unmoved remains.

A great portion of the fame of DANIEL WEBSTER rests upon the events of that day, and his patriotism having endured the tempest, his reputation shone with fresh lustre after it had passed. CLAY and WEBSTER on that day stood linked hand-in-hand, and averted the perils that menaced their common country. In the last great act of their lives in the Senate, they drew closer the bonds of union between the North and South, like those lofty Cordilleras that, stretching along the Isthmus of Panama, bind in indissoluble bonds Northern and Southern America, and alike beat back from their rocky sides the fury of either ocean. These, Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen of the House are the memories that make us in our Western homes revere the names of CLAY and WEBSTER.

The gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. DAVIS,) in his eloquent tribute to the genius and fame of DANIEL WEB-



STER, has chosen to apply to him the remark by which CICERO characterizes BRUTUS—" *Quidquid vult, valde vult.*" If he will pardon me, I think the description applied by the great orator whom he has quoted to GRACCHUS is more striking : " *Eloquentia quidem nescio an habuisse parem: grandis est verbis, sapiens sententiis, genere toto gravis.*" If, however, a resemblance prevailed in this respect between CAIUS GRACCHUS and WEBSTER, it did not in others. GRACCHUS, as we are told, was the first Roman orator who turned his back to the capitol and his face to the people ; the popular orators of Rome, anterior to that time, having always turned their faces to the Senate and their backs to the Forum. WEBSTER never sought to subvert the judgment of the people by inflaming their passions. His sphere was among men of intellect. His power was in convincing the minds of the cultivated and intellectual, rather than by fervid harangues to sway the ignorant or excite the multitude. CLAY—bold, brilliant and dashing, rushing at results with that intuition of common sense that outstrips all the processes of logic—always commanded the heart and directed the action of his party. WEBSTER seemed deficient in some of these great qualities, but surpassed him in others. He appeared his natural auxiliary. CLAY, the most brilliant parliamentary leader, and probably unequalled, save by the Earl of CHATHAM, whom he resembled, swept with the velocity of a charge of cavalry on the ranks of his opponents, and often won the victory before others were prepared for the encounter. WEBSTER, with his array of facts, his power of statement, and logical deductions, moved forward like the disciplined and serried infantry, with the measured tread of deliberate resolution, and the stately air of irresistible power.



## OBSEQUIES OF

DANIEL WEBSTER is dead. He died without ever having been elevated to the Presidency of the nation. CARMILLUS, the second founder of Rome, never enjoyed the Consulate; but he was not less illustrious because he was not rewarded by the fasces and the consular purple. Before the lustre of WEBSTER'S renown, a merely presidential reputation must grow pale. He has not only left a reputation of unsurpassed lustre in the Senate, but he will also pass down to posterity as the ablest and most profound jurist of his day. As an orator, he had not, as has been correctly observed by a senator from New York, the vehemence of DEMOSTHENES, nor the splendor of CICERO; but still DANIEL WEBSTER was an orator—an orator marked by the characteristics of the Teutonic race—bold, massive, and replete with manly force and vigor. His writings are marked by a deep philosophy which will cause them to be read when the issues that evoked them have passed away, and the splendor of an imagination, almost as rich as that of BURKE, will invest them with attractions alike for the political scholar and the man of letters.

We should not deplore the death of WEBSTER. It is true, the star has shot from the sphere it illuminated, and is lost in the gloom of death; but he sank full of years and honors, after he had reached the verge of human life, and before his majestic intellect was dimmed or his body bowed down by old age. He did not sink into his grave, like MARLBOROUGH, amid the mists of dotage; but he went while his intellect was unclouded, and the literary remembrances of his youth came thronging to the dying bed of their votary. NAPOLEON, when he was expiring at St. Helena, muttered disconnected words of command and



battle, that showed his turbulent mind still struggled in imaginary conflicts ; but gentler spirits brought to the death-bed of the statesman of Marshfield more consoling memories as he murmured,

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day ;

and all the tender and mournful beauties of that inimitable elegy clustered around his soul.

But, sir, I will not venture to say more on this theme. I have said thus much in the name of my native State, to testify her veneration for worth, patriotism and departed greatness, and to add, with proper reverence, a handful of earth to the mound a nation raises to the memory of the GREAT SECRETARY, and to say, Peace be to the manes of WEBSTER.

MR. SEYMOUR, of New York, said :

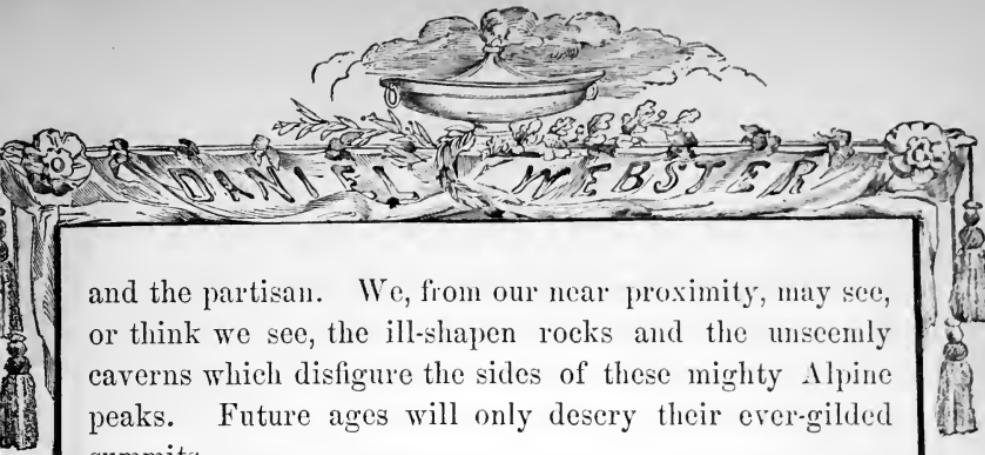
MR. SPEAKER :—I rise in support of the resolutions offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts, and in that connection propose to submit a few remarks.

Sir, our great men are the common property of the country. In the days of our prosperity we boast of their genius and enterprise as they advance the general weal. In the hour of a nation's peril the shadow of their great name is the gathering point, whither we all turn for guidance and defence ; and whether their laurels have been gathered on the battle-field, in sustaining our rights against hostile nations—in the halls of legislation, devising and enacting those wise and beneficent laws which, by developing the resources, instructing the mind, and directing the energies of the nation, may be traced on the frame-work of society long after their authors have ceased to exist—

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or in the temple of justice or the sacred desk, regulating the jarring elements of civil life, and making men happier and better—they are all parts of one grand exhibition, showing, through all coming time, what the men of the present age and of our nation have done for the elevation and advancement of our race. To chronicle these results of human effort, and to transmit them to future ages, is the province of history. In her temple the great and the good are embalmed. There they may be seen and read by all those who, in future generations, shall emulate their great deeds. Time, whose constant flow is continually obliterating and changing the physical and social relations of all things, cannot efface the landmarks which they have raised along the pathway of life. The processes by which they attained the grand result, and the associations by which they at the time were surrounded, are unknown or forgotten, while we contemplate the monuments which their genius and heroism have raised.

Who that reads the story of the battle of Marathon, by which the liberties of Athens were rescued from Persian despotism, stops to inquire to what party in that republic Miltiades belonged? Who that listens to the thunders of Demosthenes, as he moves all Greece to resist the common enemy, attempts to trace his political associations? So it will be in the future of this republic. The battle of New Orleans will disclose Jackson, the hero and the patriot, saving his country from her enemies. The debates of the Senate Chamber will exhibit Clay, Calhoun and Webster illustrating and defending the great principles of our government by their lofty patriotism and eloquence. On neither picture will be observed whatever we of the present time may judge to have savored of the mere politician

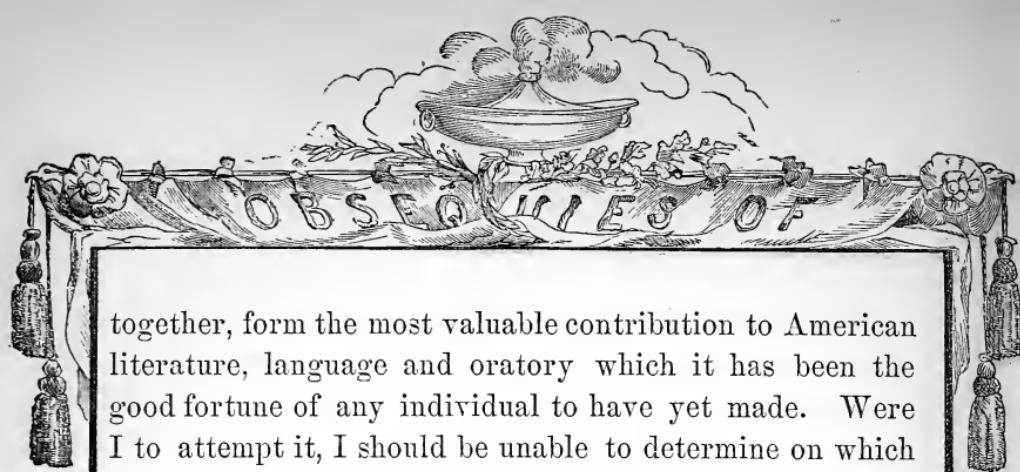


and the partisan. We, from our near proximity, may see, or think we see, the ill-shapen rocks and the unseemly caverns which disfigure the sides of these mighty Alpine peaks. Future ages will only deservy their ever-gilded summits.

Who, then, shall lightly say that Fame  
Is but an empty name?  
When, but for these our mighty dead,  
All ages past a blank would be,  
Sunk in Oblivion's murky bed—  
A desert bare—a shipless sea.  
They are the distant objects seen,  
The lofty marks of what hath been:  
Where memory of the mighty dead,  
To earth-worn pilgrims' wistful eye  
The brightest rays of cheering shed  
That point to immortality.

Sir, I shall not attempt here to even briefly review the public life or delineate the true character of DANIEL WEBSTER. That public life, extending through more than forty years of the growth and progress of our country, will doubtless be sketched by those of his compeers who have shared with him in his public service. That character, too, will best be drawn by those intimate friends who knew him best, and who enjoyed the most favorable opportunities for observing the operations of his giant mind.

In looking at what he has achieved, not only in the fields of legislation, but in those of literature and jurisprudence, I may say he has left a monument of his industry and genius of which his countrymen may well be proud. His speeches in the Senate and before the assemblies of the people, and his arguments before our highest courts, taken

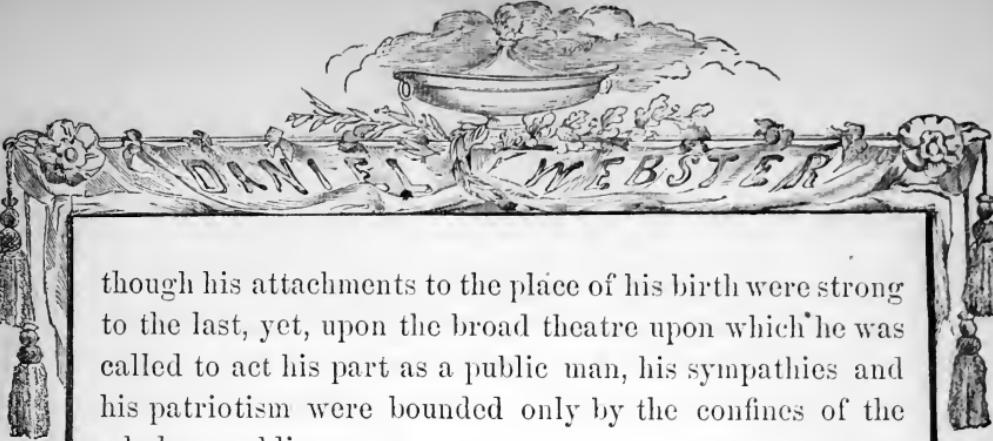


together, form the most valuable contribution to American literature, language and oratory which it has been the good fortune of any individual to have yet made. Were I to attempt it, I should be unable to determine on which of the varied scenes of his labors his genius and talents stood pre-eminent.

His argument in the Dartmouth College case has ever been regarded as a model of forensic debate, exhibiting the rare combination of the dry logic of the law with the tender, the beautiful and the sublime. His address before the Historical Society of New York not only exhibited a thorough acquaintance with ancient and modern literature, but was itself a gem whose brilliancy will never cease to attract, even by the side of the great lights of the literary world. *The speech* in the Senate in reply to HAYNE, by its powerful argumentation, its sublimity and patriotic fervor, placed him at once, by the common consent of mankind, in the front rank of orators.

But I cannot, on this occasion, review a life replete with incidents at once evincing the workings of a great mind, and marking important events in the history of the country. I can here only speak of his labors collectively. They were the result of great effort—grand in their conception, effective in their execution, and permanent in their influences.

As a son of his native New England, I am proud to refer back to the plain and unostentatious manners, the rigid discipline, and the early and thorough mental training, to be found among the yeomanry of that part of our country, as contributing primarily to the eminent success of Mr. WEBSTER in the business of his life. Born, reared and educated among the granite hills of New-Hampshire, al-

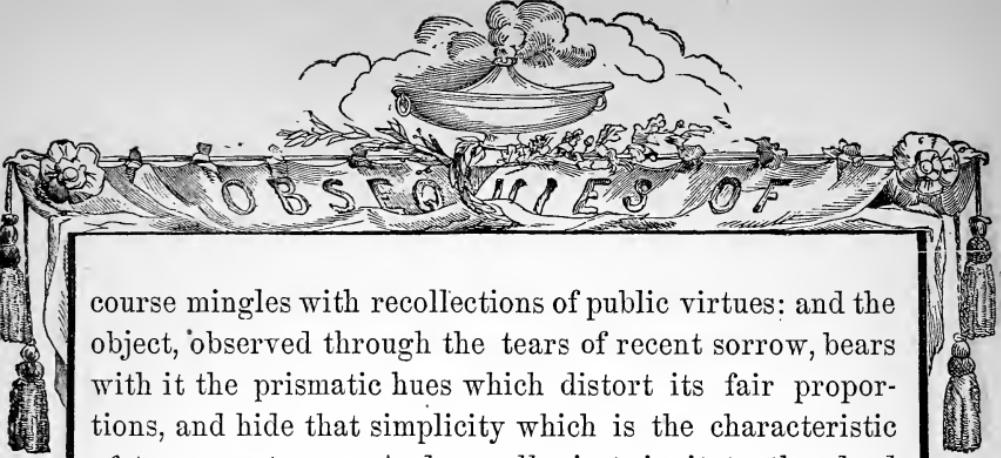


though his attachments to the place of his birth were strong to the last, yet, upon the broad theatre upon which he was called to act his part as a public man, his sympathies and his patriotism were bounded only by the confines of the whole republic.

Although, in common with many of us, I differed in opinion from the late Secretary of State upon grave political questions, yet, with the great mass of our fellow-citizens, I acknowledge his patriotism, and the force and ability with which he sustained his own opinions. However we may view those opinions, one thing will be conceded by all : his feelings were thoroughly American, and his aim the good of his country. In his whole public life, and by his greatest efforts as an orator, he has left deeply impressed on the American mind one great truth, never to be forgotten—*the preservation of American liberty depends upon the support of the Constitution and the Union of the States*. To have thus linked his name indissolubly with the perpetuity of our institutions is enough of glory for any citizen of the republic.

MR. CHANDLER said :

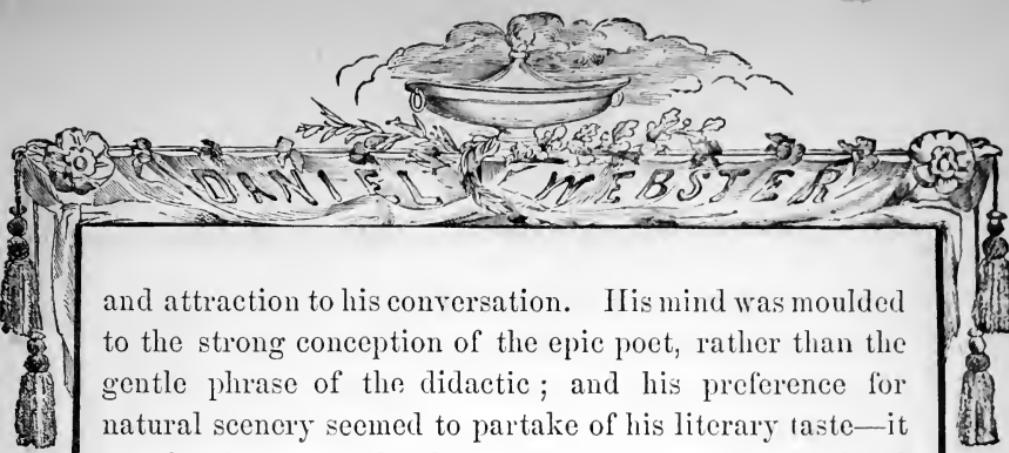
Mr. SPEAKER :—The selection of the present time to make special and official reference to the death of Mr. WEBSTER may be regarded as fortunate and judicious. An earlier moment would have exposed our eulogies to those exaggerations which, while they do justice in some measure to the feelings whence they spring, are no proofs of sound judgment in the utterer, nor sources of honor to their lamented object. The great departed owe little to the record of their worth, which is made in the midst of sudden emotions, when the freshness of personal inter-



course mingles with recollections of public virtues; and the object, observed through the tears of recent sorrow, bears with it the prismatic hues which distort its fair proportions, and hide that simplicity which is the characteristic of true greatness. And equally just is it to the dead whom we would honor, and to our feelings which would promote that honor, that we have not postponed the season to a period when time would so have mitigated our just regret as to direct our eulogies only to those lofty points of Mr. WEBSTER's character which strike but from afar ; which owe their distinction less to their affinities with public sympathy than to their elevation above ordinary ascent, and ordinary computation.

That distance, too, in a government like ours, is dangerous to a just homage to the distinguished dead, however willing may be the survivor ; for smaller objects intervene, and by proximity hide the proportions which we survey from afar, and diminish that just appreciation which is necessary to the honorable praise that is to perpetuate public fame.

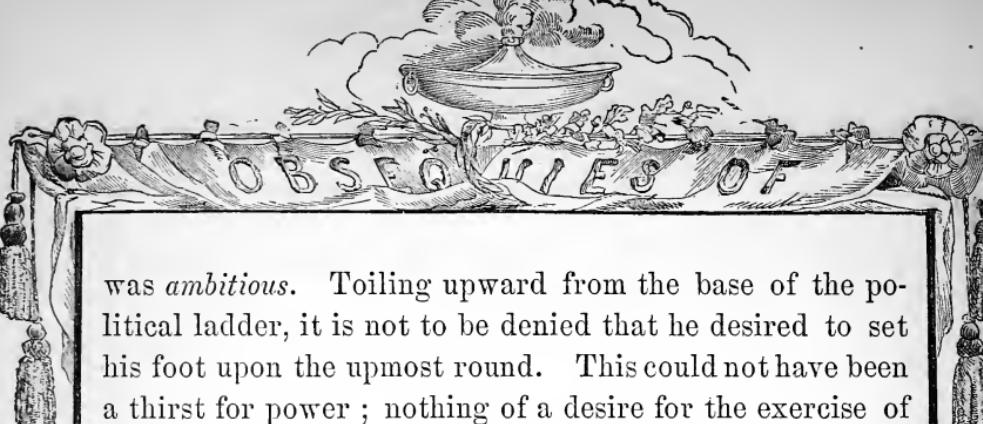
Mr. WEBSTER was a distinguished statesman, tried, sir, in nearly all the various positions which, in our government, the civilian is called on to fill; and in all these places the powers of a gifted mind, strengthened and improved by a practical education, were the great means by which he achieved success, and patriotism the motive of their devotion. With all Mr. WEBSTER's professional greatness, with all his unrivalled powers in the Senate, with his great distinction as a diplomatist, he was fond of credit as a scholar ; and his attainments, if not of the kind which gives eminence to merely literary men, were such as gave richness and terseness to his own composition, and vigor



and attraction to his conversation. His mind was moulded to the strong conception of the epic poet, rather than the gentle phrase of the didactic ; and his preference for natural scenery seemed to partake of his literary taste—it was for the strong, the elevated, the grand. His childhood and youth joyed in the rough sides of the mountains of New Hampshire, and his age found a delightful repose on the wild shores of Massachusetts bay. He was a lover of Nature, not in her holiday suit of field and flower, but in those wild exhibitions of broken coasts and isolated hills, that seem to stir the mind into activity, and provoke it into emulation of the grandeur with which it is surrounded. Yet, sir, Mr. WEBSTER had with him much of the gentleness which gives beauty to social life, and dignity and attraction to the domestic scene, just as the rugged coast is often as placid as the gentlest lake, and the summit of the roughest hill is frequently bathed in the softest sunlight, and clad in flowers of the most delicate hues. Mr. WEBSTER's person was strongly indicative of the character of his mind ; not formed for the lighter graces, but graceful in the noblest uses of manhood ; remarkable in the stateliness of its movements, and dignified in the magnificence of its repose. Mr. WEBSTER could scarcely pass unnoticed, even where unknown. There was that in his mien which attracted attention and awakened interest ; and his head (whether his countenance was lighted by a smile, such as only he could give, or fixed by contemplation, such as only he could indulge) seemed an

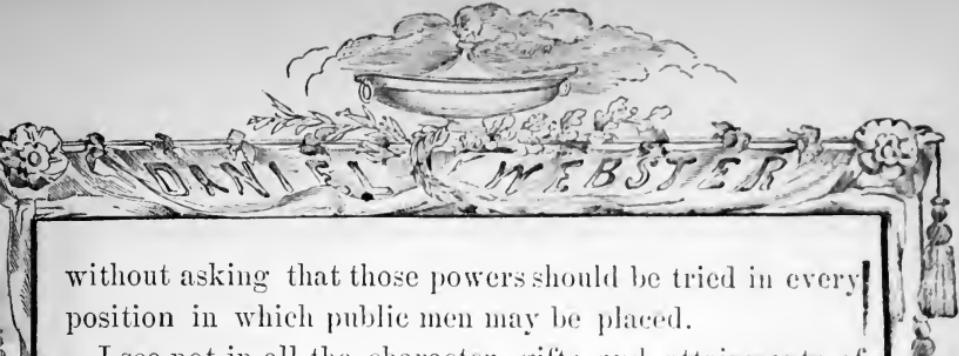
———— arch'd and ponderous roof,  
By its own weight made steadfast and immovable,  
Looking tranquility !

With all Mr. WEBSTER's lofty gifts and attainments, he



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was *ambitious*. Toiling upward from the base of the political ladder, it is not to be denied that he desired to set his foot upon the upmost round. This could not have been a thirst for power ; nothing of a desire for the exercise of absolute authority could have been in that aspiration ; for the only absolute power left (if any be left) by the Constitution in the Executive of this nation is "MERCY." In Mr. WEBSTER it was the distinction which the place conferred, and the sphere of usefulness it presented. He regarded it as the crowning glory of his public life—a glory earned by his devotion of unparalleled talents and unsurpassed statesmanship. This ambition in Mr. WEBSTER was modesty. He could not see, as others saw and felt, that no political elevation was necessary to the completion of his fame or the distinction of his statesmanship. It was not for him to understand that the last round of political preferment, honorable as it is, and made more honorable by the lustre which purity of motive, great talents and devoted patriotism are now shedding down upon it—he could not understand that preferment, honorable as it is, was unnecessary to him ; that it could add nothing to his political stature, nor enlarge the horizon of his comprehensive views. It is the characteristic of men of true greatness, of exalted talents, to comprehend the nature and power of the gifts they possess. That, sir, is an homage to God, who bestows them. But it is also their misfortune to be dissatisfied with the means and opportunities they have possessed to exercise those great gifts to great national purposes. This is merely distrust of themselves. The world, sir, comprehends the uses of the talents of great statesmen, and gives them credit for their masterly powers,



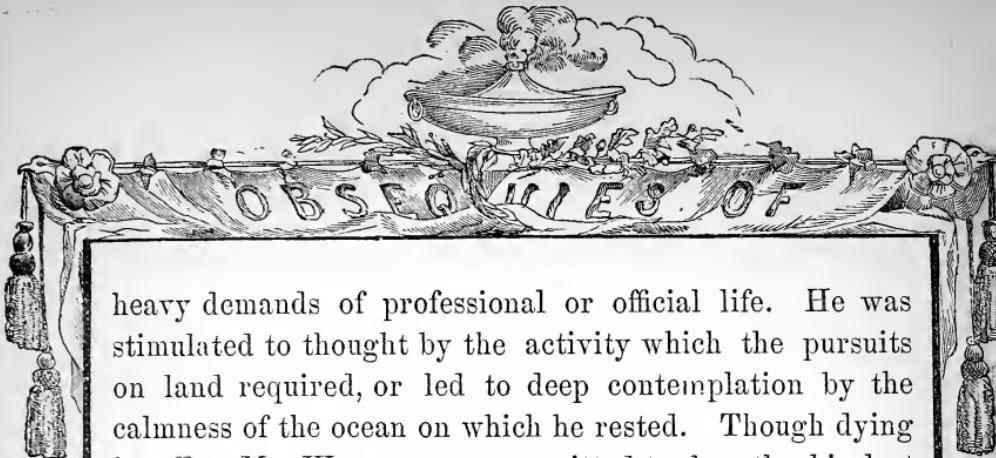
without asking that those powers should be tried in every position in which public men may be placed.

I see not in all the character, gifts and attainments of Mr. WEBSTER any illustration of the British orator's exclamation, relative to "the shadows which we are;" nor do I discover in the splendid career and the aims of his lofty ambition any thing to prove "what shadows we pursue."

The life of such a man as DANIEL WEBSTER is one of solid greatness; and the objects he pursued are worthy of a being made in the image of God. A life of honorable distinction is a substantive and permanent object. The good of man, and the true glory and happiness of his country, are the substantial things, the record of which generation hands down to generation, inscribed with the name of him that pursued them.

I will not, sir, trespass on this House by any attempt to sketch the character or narrate the services of Mr. WEBSTER; too many will have a share in this day's exercises to allow one speaker so extensive a range. It is enough for me, if, in obeying the indications of others, I give to my effort the tone of respect with which the statesman and the patriot, WEBSTER, was regarded, as well by the nation at large as by those whom I have the honor to represent on this floor. And in the remarks of those whose means of judging have been better than mine, will be found his characteristics of social and domestic life.

How keenly Mr. WEBSTER relished the relaxations which public duty sometimes allowed, I had an opportunity of judging; for he loved to call to my recollections scenery which had been familiar to me in childhood, as it was lovely to him in age. The amusements, in which he gratified a manly taste in the midst of that scenery, were promotive of physical recuperation, rendered necessary by the

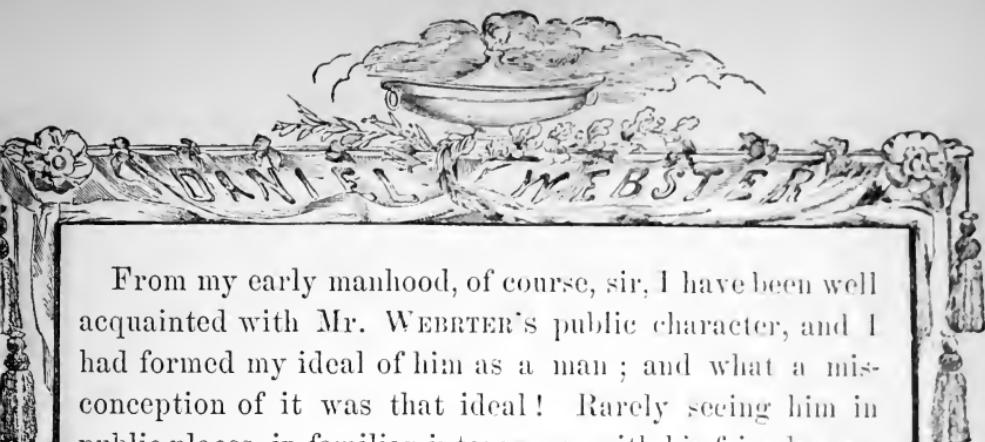


heavy demands of professional or official life. He was stimulated to thought by the activity which the pursuits on land required, or led to deep contemplation by the calmness of the ocean on which he rested. Though dying in office, Mr. WEBSTER was permitted to breathe his last in those scenes made classical to others by his uses; and dear to him by their ministrations to, and correspondence with, his taste.

The good of his country undoubtedly occupied the last moments of his ebbing life ; but those moments were not disturbed by the immediate pressure of official duties ; and in the dignity of domestic quiet he passed onward ; and while at a distance communities awaited in grief and awe the signal of his departure, the deep diapason of the Atlantic wave, as it broke upon his own shore, was a fitting requiem for such a parting spirit.

MR. BAYLY, of Virginia, remarked :

I had been, sir, nearly two years a member of Congress before I made Mr. WEBSTER's acquaintance. About that time a proceeding was instituted here, of a delicate character, so far as he was concerned, and incidentally concerning an eminent constituent and friend of mine. This circumstance first brought me into intercourse with Mr. WEBSTER. Subsequently, I transacted a good deal of official business with him, some of it also of a delicate character. I thus had unusual opportunities of forming an opinion of the man. The acquaintance I made with him, under the circumstances to which I have referred, ripened into friendship. It is to these circumstances that I, a political opponent, am indebted for the honor, as I esteem it, of having been requested to say something on this occasion.



From my early manhood, of course, sir, I have been well acquainted with Mr. WEBSTER's public character, and I had formed my ideal of him as a man ; and what a misconception of it was that ideal ! Rarely seeing him in public places, in familiar intercourse with his friends, contemplating his grave statue-like appearance in the Senate and the Forum, I had formed the conception that he was a frigid iron bound man, whom few could approach without constraint ; and I undertake to say that—until of late years, in which, through personal sketches of him by his friends, the public has become acquainted with his private character—such was the idea most persons, who knew him only as I did, formed of him. Yet, sir, what a misconception ! No man could appreciate Mr. WEBSTER who did not know him privately. No man could appreciate him who did not see him in familiar intercourse with his friends, and especially around his own fireside and table. There, sir, he was confiding, gay, and sometimes downright boyish. Full of racy anecdotes, he told them in the most captivating manner.

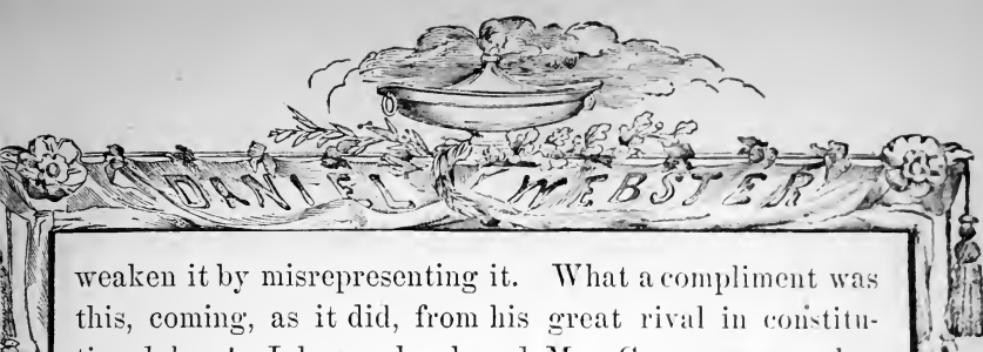
Who that ever heard his description of men and things can ever forget them ? Mr. WEBSTER, sir, attached a peculiar meaning to the word *talk*, and in his sense of the term he liked to talk ; and who that ever heard him talk can forget that talk ? Sometimes it was the most playful wit, then the most pleasing philosophy. Mr. WEBSTER, sir, owed his greatness, to a large extent, to his native gifts.

Among his contemporaries there were lawyers more learned, yet he was, by common consent, assigned the first place at the American bar. As a statesman, there were those more thoroughly informed than he, yet what statesman ranked him ? Among orators there were those more graceful and impressive, yet what orator was greater than



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he? There were scholars more ripe, yet who wrote better English? The characteristics of his mind were massive strength and classic beauty, combined with a rare felicity. His favorite studies, if I may judge from his conversations, were the history and constitution of his own country, and the history and the constitution of England; and I undertake to say that there is not now a man living who was more perfectly familiar with both. His favorite amusements, too, if I may judge in the same way, were field-sports and out-door exercise. I have frequently heard Mr. WEBSTER say, if he had been a merchant, he would have been an out-door partner. Mr. WEBSTER was, as all great men are, eminently magnanimous. As proof of this, see his whole life, and especially that crowning act of magnanimity—his letter to Mr. DICKINSON. Mr. WEBSTER had no envy or jealousy about him—as no great man ever had. Conscious of his own powers, he envied those of no one else. Mr. CALHOUN and himself entered public life about the same time; each of them strove for the first honors of the republic. They were statesmen of rival schools. They frequently met in the stern encounter of debate, and when they met the conflict was a conflict of giants. Yet how delightful it was to hear Mr. WEBSTER speak, as I have heard him speak, in the most exalted terms of CALHOUN; and how equally delightful it was to hear Mr. CALHOUN, as I have heard him, speak in like terms of WEBSTER. On one occasion Mr. CALHOUN, speaking to me of the characteristics of WEBSTER as a debater, said that he was remarkable in this—that he always stated the argument of his antagonist fairly, and boldly met it. He said he had even seen him state the argument of his opponent more forcibly than his opponent had stated it himself; and, if he could not answer it, he would never undertake to



weaken it by misrepresenting it. What a compliment was this, coming, as it did, from his great rival in constitutional law! I have also heard Mr. CALHOUN say that Mr. WEBSTER tried to aim at truth more than any statesman of his day.

A short time since, Mr. Speaker, when addressing the House, at the invitation of the delegation of Kentucky, on the occasion of Mr. CLAY's death, I used this language :

"Sir, it is but a short time since the American Congress buried the first one that went to the grave of that great triumvirate, (CALHOUN.) We are now called upon to bury another, (CLAY.) The third, thank GOD ! still lives; and long may he live to enlighten his countrymen by his wisdom, and set them the example of exalted patriotism. [Alas ! how little did I think, when I uttered these words, that my wish was so soon to be disappointed.] Sir, in the lives and characters of these great men there is much resembling those of the great triumvirate of the British Parliament. It differs principally in this : BURKE preceded FOX and PITT to the tomb. WEBSTER survives CLAY and CALHOUN. When FOX and PITT died, they left no peer behind them. WEBSTER still lives, now that CALHOUN and CLAY are dead, the unrivalled statesman of his country. Like FOX and PITT, CLAY and CALHOUN lived in troubled times. Like FOX and PITT, they were each of them the leader of rival parties. Like FOX and PITT, they were idolized by their respective friends. Like FOX and PITT, they died about the same time and in the public service ; and, as has been said of FOX and PITT, CLAY and CALHOUN died with 'their harness upon them.' Like FOX and PITT—

With more than mortal powers endowed,  
How high they soar'd above the crowd;



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Theirs was no common party race,  
Jostling by dark intrigue for place—  
Like fabled gods, their mighty war  
Shook realms and nations in its jar.  
Beneath each banner, proud to stand,  
Looked up the noblest of the land.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Here let their discord with them die.*

Speak not for those a separate doom  
Whom fate made brothers in the tomb ;  
But search the land of living men,  
Where wilt thou find their like again?"

I may reproduce, on this occasion, with propriety, what I then said, with the addition of the names of BURKE and WEBSTER. The parallel that I undertook to run on that occasion, by the aid of a poet, was not designed to be perfect. yet it might be strengthened by lines from another poet. For though WEBSTER's enemies must admit, as BURKE's satirist did, that—

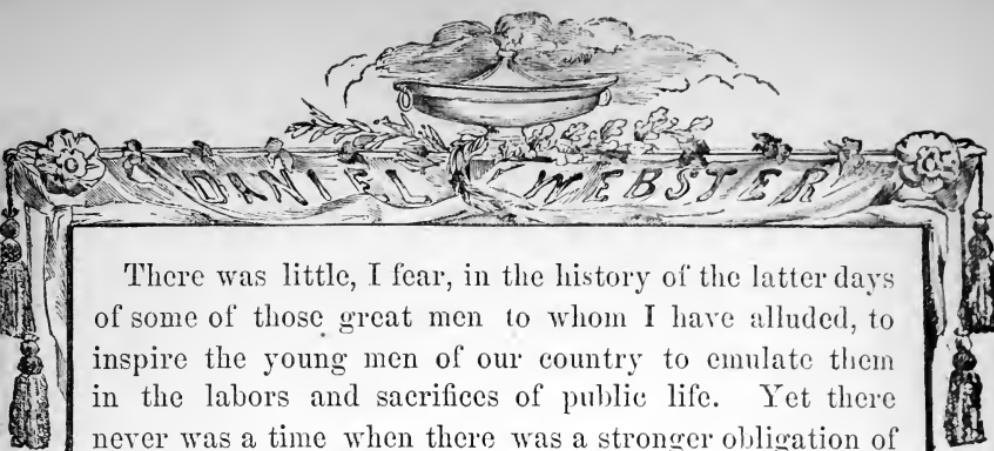
Too fond of *the right* to pursue *the expedient*,

yet, what satirist, with the last years of WEBSTER's life before him, will undertake to shock the public sentiment of America by saying, as was unjustly said of BURKE by his satirist—

Born for the universe, he narrowed his mind,  
And to party gave up what was meant for mankind.

Mr. Speaker, during the brief period I have served with you in this House, what sad havoc has Death made among the statesmen of our republic! JACKSON, WRIGHT, POLK, McDUFFIE and SERGEANT, in private life, and WOODBURY, from the bench, have gone to the tomb! We have buried in that short time ADAMS, CALHOUN, TAYLOR and CLAY, and we are now called on to pay the last tribute of our respect to the memory of DANIEL WEBSTER. Well may I ask, in the language of the poem already quoted—

Where wilt thou find their like again ?



There was little, I fear, in the history of the latter days of some of those great men to whom I have alluded, to inspire the young men of our country to emulate them in the labors and sacrifices of public life. Yet there never was a time when there was a stronger obligation of patriotic duty on us to emulate them in that respect than now.

They followed one race of revolutionary statesmen—they were the second generation of statesmen of our country. With one or two brilliant exceptions, that second generation has passed away, and those that now have charge of public affairs, with the exceptions referred to, are emphatically new men. GOD grant we have patriotism to follow faithfully in the footsteps of those who preceded us !

MR. STANLEY said :

MR. SPEAKER :—I feel that it is proper and becoming in me, as the representative of a people who claim the reputation of DANIEL WEBSTER as part of their most valuable property, to add a few words to what has been already said. I do not think that it is necessary to his fame to do so. I have no idea of attempting a eulogy on DANIEL WEBSTER. It would be presumptuous to attempt it. Long before my entrance into public life, I heard from an illustrious citizen of my native State, (the late Judge GASTON,) that Mr. WEBSTER, who was his contemporary in Congress, gave early indication of the wonderful abilities which he afterward displayed. There were giants in the land in those days, and by them WEBSTER was regarded as one who would earn great distinction. Before he had reached the height of his fame the young men in our land had been taught to respect him. This was the feeling of those who

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came forward on the stage of life with me. In what language, then, can I express my admiration of those splendid abilities which have delighted and instructed his countrymen, and charmed the lovers of republican government throughout the earth? How shall I find fitting terms to speak of his powers of conversation—his many good qualities in social life—his extraordinary attainments—his exalted patriotism? Sir, I shrink from the task.

Gifted men from the pulpit, eloquent senators at home and in the Senate, orators in Northern and Southern and Western States, have gratified the public mind by doing honor to his memory. To follow in a path trodden by so many superior men requires more boldness than I possess. But I cannot forbear to say that we North Carolinians sympathize with Massachusetts in her loss. We claim him as our WEBSTER, as we do the memories of her great men of the revolution. Though he has added glory to the bright name of Massachusetts, he has been the defender of that Constitution which has surrounded, with impregnable bulwarks, the invaluable blessings of civil liberty. When he made Massachusetts hearts throb with pride that she had such a man to represent her in the councils of the nation, we, too, felt proud at her joy, for her glory is our glory.

Faneuil Hall is in Boston, and Boston in Massachusetts; but the fame of those whose eloquence from those walls fanned the fire of liberty in the hearts of American patriots, and made tyrants tremble on their thrones, is the fame of the American people.

Faneuil Hall! DANIEL WEBSTER! What glorious associations do these words recall!

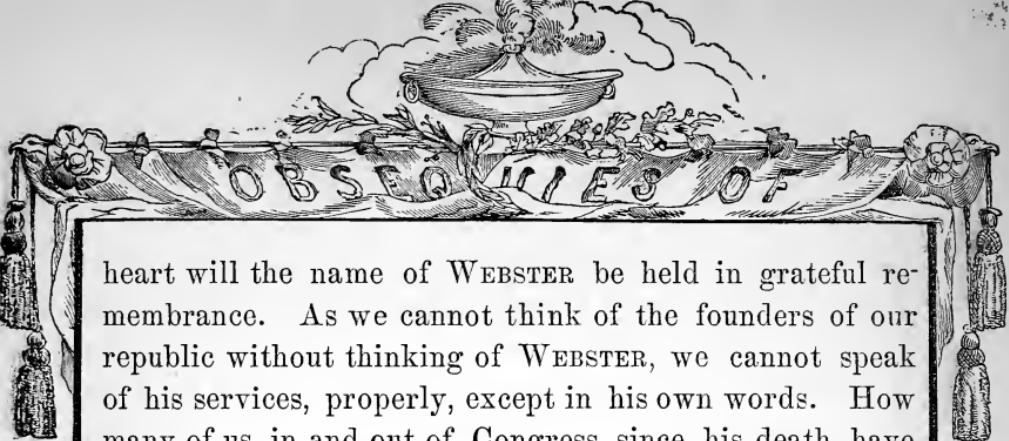
The American patriot who hereafter performs his pilgrimage to that time-honored hall, and looks at his por-



trait, appropriately placed there, will involuntarily repeat what the poet said of the Webster of poets :

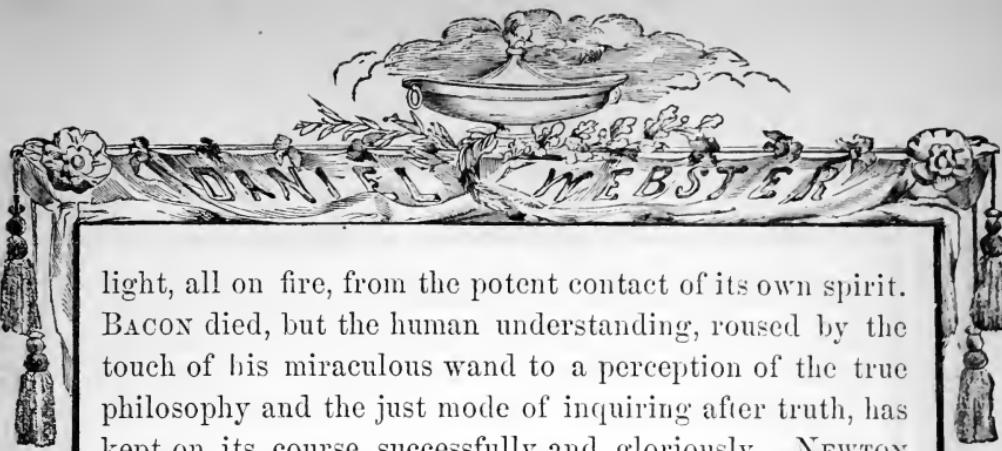
Here Nature listening stood, while Shakspeare play'd,  
And wondered at the work herself had made.

DANIEL WEBSTER was, to the revolutionary patriots of Massachusetts, to the founders of our Constitution in the Old Thirteen States, what HOMER was to the ancient heroes. Their deeds would have lived without him. Their memories would have been cherished by their countrymen had WEBSTER never spoken. But who can say that his mighty ability, his power of language, unequalled throughout the world—who can say he has not embalmed their memories, painted their deeds in beautiful drapery, and by the might of his genius held them up in captivating form to his countrymen? Who is there on the habitable globe, wherever man is struggling for freedom, wherever WASHINGTON's name is heard and reverenced—who is there who will ever read the history of those immortal men who achieved our liberties, and founded with almost supernatural wisdom our Constitution and republican form of government—who can ever read the history of these great men without saying, they achieved much, they performed great and noble deeds, but WEBSTER's oratory has emblazoned them to the world, and erected monuments to their memories more enduring than marble? Can man aspire to higher honor than to have his name associated with such men? This honor, by universal consent, DANIEL WEBSTER, the son of a New Hampshire farmer, has secured. Wherever liberty is prized on earth, in whatever quarter of the globe the light of our "great republic" is seen, sending its cheering beams to the heart of the lonely exile of oppression—in that land and to that



heart will the name of WEBSTER be held in grateful remembrance. As we cannot think of the founders of our republic without thinking of WEBSTER, we cannot speak of his services, properly, except in his own words. How many of us, in and out of Congress, since his death, have recalled his memorable words, in his eulogium on ADAMS and JEFFERSON. Hear him in that discourse :

“ADAMS and JEFFERSON, I have said, are no more. As human beings, indeed, they are no more. They are no more, as in 1776, bold and fearless advocates of independence ; no more, as on subsequent periods, the head of the government ; no more as we have recently seen them, aged and venerable objects of admiration and regard. They are no more. They are dead. But how little is there of the great and good which can die ! To their country they yet live, and live forever. They live in all that perpetuates the remembrance of men on earth ; in the recorded proofs of their great actions ; in the offspring of their intellect ; in the deep and grave lines of public gratitude, and in the respect and homage of mankind. They live in their example ; and they live, emphatically, and will live, in the influence which their lives and efforts, their principles and opinions, now exercise, and will continue to exercise on the affairs of men, not only in their country, but throughout the civilized world. A superior and commanding human intellect, a truly great man, when Heaven vouchsafes so rare a gift, is not a temporary flame, burning bright for awhile, and then expiring, giving place to returning darkness. It is rather a spark of fervent heat as well as radiant light, with power to enkindle the common mass of human mind ; so that when it glimmers in its own decay, and finally goes out in death, no night follows, but it leaves the world all

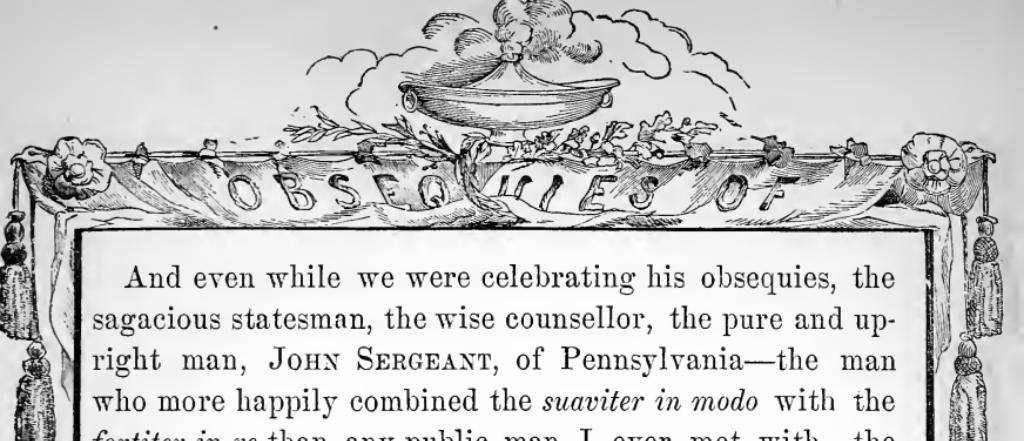


light, all on fire, from the potent contact of its own spirit. BACON died, but the human understanding, roused by the touch of his miraculous wand to a perception of the true philosophy and the just mode of inquiring after truth, has kept on its course, successfully and gloriously. NEWTON died, yet the courses of the spheres are still known, and they yet move on in the orbits which he saw, and described for them in the infinity of space."

Who can feel these words without feeling how appropriate and applicable to the great American statesman? To the country he "still lives," and will live forever.

Mr. Speaker, I fear to go on. The thoughts which are in my mind are not worthy of the great subject. I have read and heard so much from the able, learned and eloquent of our land in his praise, I shrink from attempting to add any thing more.

In justice to the feelings of those I represent, I felt solicitous to cast my pebble on the pile which was erecting to his memory. They venerate his memory, not only for those services to which I have referred, but also for his later exhibitions of patriotism, in stemming the torrent of temporary excitement at home. The year 1852, Mr. Speaker, will long be memorable in the annals of our country. In this year three great lights of our age and our country have gone out. But a few months since, the voice of lamentation was heard from the Atlantic to the Pacific shore, that HENRY CLAY was no more. The sounds of sorrow had scarcely died in our ears, when inexorable Death, striking with remorseless hand at the cottage of the peasant and the palace of the great—Death, as if to send terror to our souls by showing us that the greatest in place and in genius are but men—has destroyed all that was mortal of DANIEL WEBSTER.



## OBSEQUIES OF

And even while we were celebrating his obsequies, the sagacious statesman, the wise counsellor, the pure and upright man, JOHN SERGEANT, of Pennsylvania—the man who more happily combined the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re* than any public man I ever met with—the model of that best of all characters, a Christian gentleman, always loving “whatsoever things are true, honest just, lovely and of good report,”—JOHN SERGEANT is called to that beatific vision reserved for “the pure in heart.”

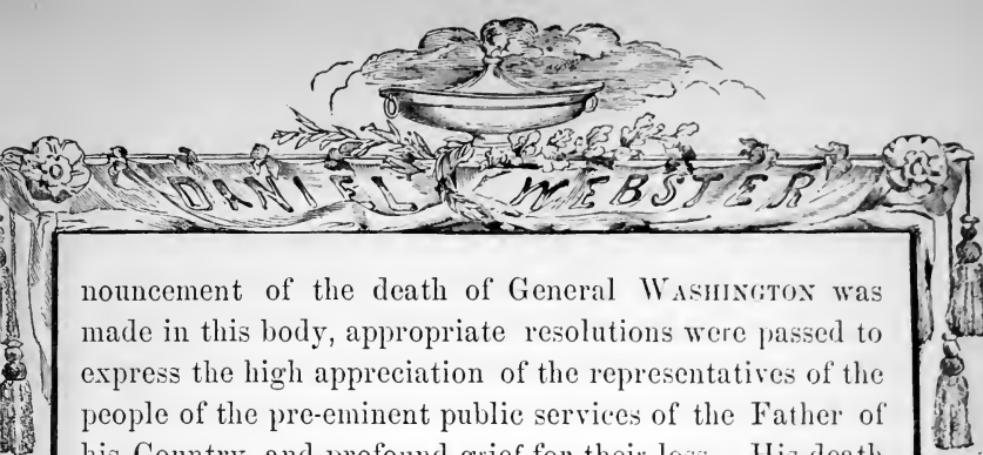
Let it be our pleasure, as it will be our duty, to teach those who come after us to imitate the private virtues, remember the public services, and cherish the reputation of these illustrious men. And while we do this, let us cherish, with grateful remembrance and honest pride, the thought that these great men were not only lovers of liberty, friends of republican institutions, and patriots devoted to the service of their country, but that they were, with sincere conviction, believers in the Christian religion. Without this praise, the Corinthian column of their characters would be deprived at once of the chief ornament of its capitol and the solidity of its base.

I fervently hope the lessons we have had of the certainty of death will not be lost upon us. May they make us less fond of the pleasures of this world, so rapidly passing away! May they cause those who are in high places of trust and honor to remember, now in the days of health, manhood and prosperity, that

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Await alike th' inevitable hour—  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave!

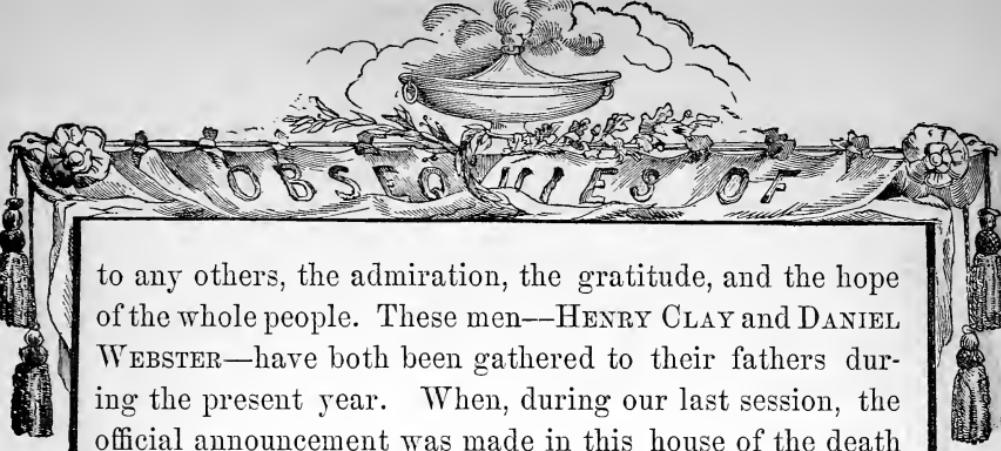
MR. TAYLOR, of Ohio, said :

Mr. SPEAKER :—In the Congress of 1799, when the an-



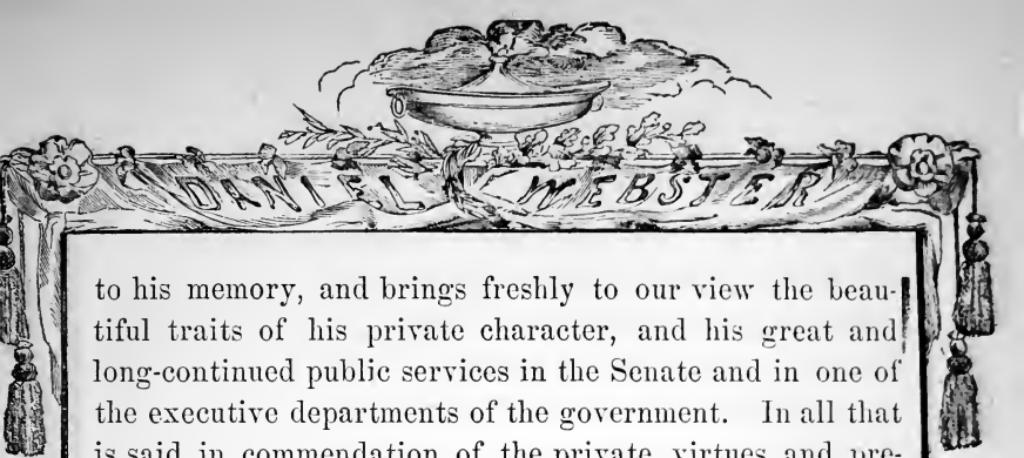
nouncement of the death of General WASHINGTON was made in this body, appropriate resolutions were passed to express the high appreciation of the representatives of the people of the pre-eminent public services of the Father of his Country, and profound grief for their loss. His death was considered a great national calamity ; and in the beautiful and appropriate language of General HENRY LEE, who prepared the resolutions introduced by JOHN MARSHALL, he was proclaimed as having been "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." The whole nation cordially responded to that sentiment ; and from that day to this, the high eulogium has been adopted by the people of the United States of America, as the just and expressive tribute to the greatest man, take him all in all, that our country had then or has since produced. Time rolled on, and the sentiment of his own country has, of late years, become the intelligent opinion of the whole world. And in proof of this I might cite, among others, the deliberately recorded opinions of the late Premier GUIZOT, of France, and the great, though eccentric writer and statesman, BROUHAM, of England, men of vast celebrity.

Our country, then in its infancy, has grown up, in little more than half a century, to be the first republic in the world, having increased from three or four millions to nearly twenty-five millions of inhabitants, and extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. During the present year the nation has been called upon to mourn the death of two of her distinguished citizens ; two men born since the establishment of our independence, cradled in the Revolution, and brought up, as it were, at the feet of the fathers of the republic, whose long public career has attracted to them, and all that concerned them, more than



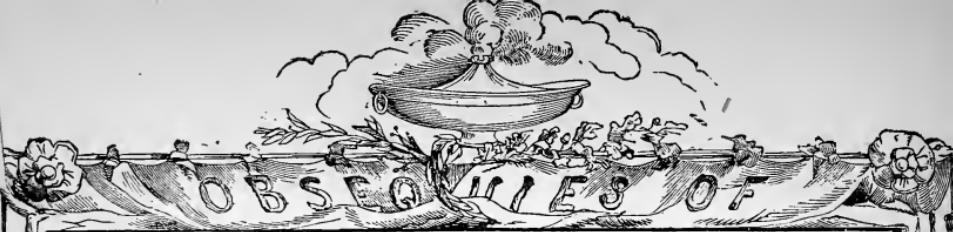
to any others, the admiration, the gratitude, and the hope of the whole people. These men—HENRY CLAY and DANIEL WEBSTER—have both been gathered to their fathers during the present year. When, during our last session, the official announcement was made in this house of the death of HENRY CLAY, I listened with heart-felt sympathy to the eloquent and beautiful eulogies then pronounced upon his character, and felt, in the fullness of my heart, the truest grief. As one of the representatives of the great and prosperous State of Ohio, on this floor, I desired then to mingle my humble voice with those who eagerly sought to honor his memory. But no opportunity was afforded me, and I could only join with meekness of spirit and a bowed mind in the appropriate funeral honors which were rendered to the illustrious dead, by Congress. And I only now desire to say, that no State in the Union, not even his own beloved Kentucky, more deeply felt the great loss which, in the death of Mr. CLAY, the nation had sustained, than the State of Ohio; and the public meetings of her citizens, without distinction of party, in the city in which I reside, and many other parts of the State expressed, in appropriate and feeling terms, their high estimate of his great public services, and their profound grief for his death.

And now, sir, since the adjournment of Congress, at its last session, he who co-operated with Mr. CLAY in the legislative and executive departments, at various times, for nearly forty years, and to whom, with his great compatriot, more than to any other, the people looked for counsel, and for security and peace—he, too, has paid the debt of nature, and will never more be seen among men. The formal announcement, in this body, of the death of DANIEL WEBSTER has elicited just and eloquent tributes



to his memory, and brings freshly to our view the beautiful traits of his private character, and his great and long-continued public services in the Senate and in one of the executive departments of the government. In all that is said in commendation of the private virtues and pre-eminent public services of DANIEL WEBSTER, I heartily concur ; and I wish, sir, that I could find words sufficiently strong and appropriate to express what, in my judgment, were the great claims of these two eminent men upon the admiration and upon the gratitude of their countrymen. They were, in many respects, exemplars for the young men of our country. Born (without any of the advantages conferred sometimes by wealth and position) in humble life ; struggling with adversities in their earlier years ; triumphing over all obstacles by their native strength of intellect, by their genius, and by their persevering industry and great energy, they placed themselves in the very first rank of American statesmen, and for more than forty years were the great leaders of the American mind, and among the brightest guardians of their common country.

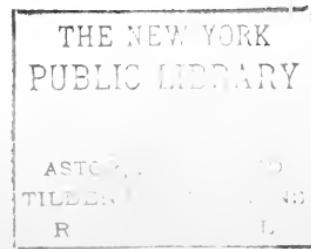
Sir, it was my good fortune to have known, for many years, both these great patriots, and to have enjoyed their friendship ; and I think that I but express the general sentiment of the intelligent people of this great country when I say that our country is, in a very large degree, indebted to them for its present unexampled prosperity; for its peace and domestic happiness, and for its acknowledged power and high renown all over the world. In my judgment, the words of the national legislature, so beautifully and aptly embodying the true character of the Father of his Country, were not more appropriately uttered then in reference to him than they might be applied now, so far

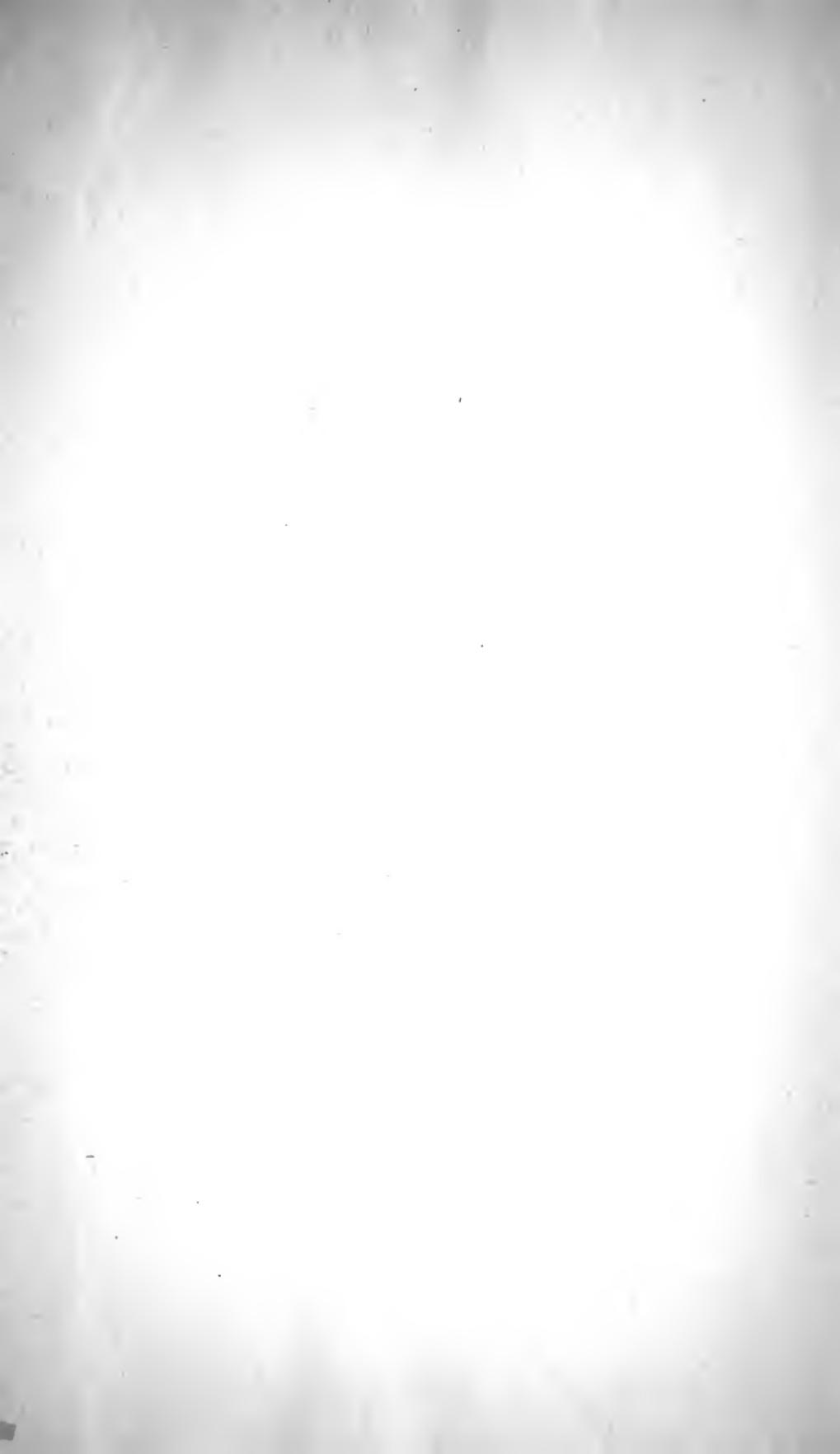


as relates to the *civil* affairs and action of our government, within the last forty years, to HENRY CLAY and DANIEL WEBSTER ; and it may be properly said of them that within that time they have been, emphatically, " First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of their countrymen." But, sir, the great men of a country must die ; and, if the great men of a country are pre-eminently good men, their loss is the more severely felt. Nothing human is perfect ; and I am far from believing, much less from asserting, that the eminent men of whom I have spoken were without defects of character. But I believe their virtues so far outweighed the imperfections of their nature, that to dwell upon such defects, on this occasion, would be as unprofitable and futile as to object to the light, and heat, and blessings of the glorious sun, guided by the Omnipotent hand, because an occasional shadow or spot may be seen on his disk. These guardians of our country have passed away ; but their works and good examples are left for our guidance, and are part of the lasting and valued possessions of this nation. And, Mr. Speaker,

When the bright guardians of a country die,  
The grateful tear in tenderness will start ;  
And the keen anguish of a reddening eye  
Disclose the deep affliction of the heart.

The question was put on the adoption of the resolutions proposed by Mr. DAVIS, and they were unanimously adopted.





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